OSWESTRY & BORDER
CHRONICLE

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JOBS JOY AS NEW KFC TAKES ON FIRST STAFF

SIXTEEN people have landed jobs thanks to a unique partnership between Oswestry's new KFC drive-thru restaurant and the town's further education college.

Candidates vying for a position at the restaurant, which is due to open next month, took part in an intensive week-long training course at Walford and North Shropshire College.

The course was created by the college's employer engagement department.

Now 16 of the candidates, many of whom had been unemployed for some time, who took part in the course have been offered jobs by KFC while another five hopefuls are waiting to see how they get on at the next round of interviews.

Nick Such, from human resources organisation Gastronomy Foods (UK), said: "We can confirm that we will be offering 16 candidates positions in our new drive-thru.

by Iain St John

"I was really impressed by the interviewees and they had clearly received great training at the college.

"What really stood out was the team spirit amongst the candidates. The way they encouraged each other and stayed on to support their fellow candidates was uplifting.

"We were looking for specific personalities and behaviours in addition to knowledge, and those things really shone through.

"A really good service from the college, this was a great project and we will be recommending using Walford and North Shropshire College in the future for sure."

The candidates for the course were recruited through Shrewsbury Jobcentre and by the end of the week all had benefited in terms of up-to-date work experience, references, qualifications and confidence levels.

Training

The successful candidates will now go on to continue their training for the new restaurant which will be opening on May 17.

Among the successful candidates is Hannah Kilvert from Oswestry, who has been unemployed since September.

She said: "I am delighted to have been offered a job with KFC and I'm looking forward to starting with them soon."

Designed to meet the needs of the new employer, the college course was aimed at people who have an interest in obtaining work in a fast moving customer focussed environment.

The core elements of the programme, which aims to help people to return to full-time employment, included customer service, food safety, health and safety and application form completion.

College employment programmes coordinator Jacqui Maddox said: "We are thrilled that so many of the candidates have successfully gained employment. The group gelled together really well and they have all taken something positive from this experience."

A total of 45 jobs will be created when KFC opens next month.

Plans to build 15 homes get go-ahead

PLANS to build 15 affordable homes on the site of a former tax office in Oswestry have been given the go ahead – despite road safety concerns.

The apartments will be built at Plas Ffynnon, 12-14 Middleton Road, which is currently a private residence, after plans were approved by Shropshire Council's north planning committee at a meeting in Wem on Tuesday.

Simon Britten of Shropshire Trading Ltd applied to create two and three bedroom family apartments, a parking area and cycle storage. Part of the building will be demolished.

Martin Bennett, Shropshire councillor for Oswestry East, said the plans would increase the risk of a crash on the narrow junction with Ambleside Road.

He said: "We have a lot of elderly or people with push chairs that will have to cross to get along the road because there is a grass verge on one side and no pavement."

The plans sparked letters of objection from 17 residents and Oswestry Town Council, which claimed the scheme would increase pressure on the Middleton Road/Salop Road junction.

It said access to and from the site would be 'extremely dangerous' with limited visibility.

Car damaged in collision

POLICE are appealing for witnesses to a road traffic collision in Oswestry in which a parked car was damaged.

A yellow Seat Ibiza parked on Park Avenue overnight last Thursday was damaged. The driver of the other vehicle involved failed to stop to report the collision.

The owner of the parked Seat found damage to the rear of his vehicle the following morning.

Anyone with information is asked to call police on 101 and quote 0309S290313.

Two-day rally cancelled over safety issues

THE Welshpool-based Rally North Wales has been cancelled with organisers concerned about safety.

Organisers, the Wolverhampton and South Staffordshire Car Club Ltd, said that ice on the forest stages located posed too big a threat and was unlikely to thaw ahead of this weekend's two-day event.

This was to be the opening round of the 2013 British Rally Championship and had been expected to provide a boost to the town's economy.

Event manager Kevin Witton explained: "Since Wednesday of last week we have been closely monitoring the adverse weather conditions within and surrounding the Dyfi, Dyfnant and Gartheiniog forests which were to provide the Rally with its competitive sections.

"We made a more detailed survey of the gravel roads to be used as Special Stages on Monday and found them all to be covered with significant patches of hard ice."

Nearly 140 entries had been received for the Rally which attracts up to 3,000 followers and would have provided businesses in the Welshpool area with a financial shot in the arm following a quiet Easter weekend.

Local driver James Watkins said:"I am gutted the event is off, but it is better to be safe than sorry."

Nicola turns on the style

Barber Nicola Davies is calling for support for Oswestry's market. ***Picture: Peter Shah.***

A BARBER who is aiming to secure a prestigious beauty prize is calling on Oswestry's residents to back their local market.

Nicola Davies, 21, hopes to win the title of Miss Intercontinental Wales next month.

As part of the competition, contestants have to show how they are involved in their local communities and Nicola has chosen to publicise Oswestry's outdoor market.

She said she had personal experience of working on the market in freezing conditions and has nothing but admiration for the market stall holders.

Nicola, who appeared on the outdoor market on Oswestry's Bailey Head yesterday, said: "Part of the competition asks you to make as many appearances as you can in and around your community.

"I chose the market because it is a really important part of Oswestry. I just don't think enough people in Oswestry use it."

Nicola, who works at Barber Shop 2 in Old Chapel Court off Church Street, said she was looking for sponsorship to help meet the £238 cost of entering the pageant. email **nicky-davies1@hotmail.co.uk**

Cycling event put forward for town

OSWESTRY could get a new cycling event with celebrity riders to help boost tourism.

The Alpe D'HuOz Cycle Sportif proposal went before Oswestry Town Council's development and planning committee for approval last night (Wednesday).

Organisers say they hope to create 'one of the best road cycling events in the country'.

The date has been chosen to coincide with Shropshire Council's bike festival which is being organised for June 29 at Oswestry Leisure Centre, in Shrewsbury Road.

It has been estimated that the event could attract more than 1,000 cyclists and their friends and family to Oswestry over the weekend.

Alpe D'HuOz would take an 8.35km route and if this is completed six times it would be the equivalent of climbing Alpe D'Huez, which is part of the Tour De France route.

The idea for holding the event was taken to the town council by Councillor Saffron Rainey.

He said: "We believe that this cycling festival could be another important leg of 'Oswestry Season'.

"This weekend also happens to coincide with the start of Tour De France."

Alpe D'HuOz would also need the support of Shropshire Council to go ahead as roads would need to be closed from 9am until 1pm.

Shortlist for top awards

JUDGES have announced their shortlist for the Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Of The Year competition for 2013.

Judging took place last week when an independent panel sat alongside sponsors, and now over 200 finalists, guests and sponsors will attend a glittering ceremony at the Lion Quays Waterside Resort to see the best in local business honoured.

We were inundated with entries and judges commented on the high quality.

● Judges – See Page 3

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CONTACT US

Editor: Caroline Jones
Tel: 01952 241416 E-mail: caroline.jones@shropshirestar.co.uk

Associate Editor: Graham Breeze
Tel: 01691 668094 E-mail: news@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Sport: Alex James
Tel: 01691 668094 E-mail: sport@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Oswestry photographic
Tel: 01691 668094 E-mail: news@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Welshpool photographic
Tel: 01938 553319 E-mail: news@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Advertising:

Advertisement Manager: David Lee-Birch
Tel: 01691 668090 E-mail: dlee-birch@shropshirestar.co.uk

Marcus Evans
Tel: 01691 668095 E-mail: marcus.evans@shropshirestar.co.uk

Christina Cookson
Tel: 01691 668089 E-mail: christina.cookson@shropshirestar.co.uk

Welshpool Advertising:

Beverley Thompson
Tel:01691 668092 E-mail: beverley.thompson@shropshirestar.co.uk

Distribution: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319537 E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

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Man escapes as huge fire destroys his home

by Sue Austin

A MAN trying to keep warm by sleeping in front of an electric fire escaped with his life when a blaze destroyed his home in Whittington on Friday.

The man in his 50s suffered serious burns to his face and hands after waking to fire in his living room and was treated in hospital. His dog died in the blaze.

The blaze broke out in the semi-detached bungalow in Western Avenue, Whittington near Oswestry, just before 7.30am on Friday.

It was so fierce it destroyed the bungalow although firefighters managed to save the adjoining home. They say they believe the man had been sleeping on the sofa under his quilt, in front of the electric fire, trying to keep warm during the sub zero temperatures.

Fire crew watch manager, Ade Bowen, said: "The blaze was so fierce, we could see the flames from the Oswestry bypass a couple of miles away. At first we thought it was a barn fire."

He said the occupant of the house, a single man in his 50s, had managed to get out the house before the fire crews arrived.

"He had serious burns to his hands and face and was treated by one of the firefighters, a trained first aider, before paramedics arrived."

He was taken to hospital by ambulance.

Mr Bowen said: "It was a very serious fire and the gentleman was very lucky to escape with his life. There was also a dog in the property but sadly we were unable to save it."

Six firefighters using breathing apparatus went into the bungalow to fight the fire while others used covering jetsto help bring the blaze under control by 9am. Investigations into how the fire started are continuing.

The living room fire at Western Avenue, Whittington, gutted the bungalow.

Burglary is linked with stolen BMW in village

BURGLARS ran from a house in Whittington near Oswestry after they were disturbed by a member of the family.

Police think the break-in could be connected with a stolen BMW that was found in a village a few miles away.

The incident happened at 3.30pm on Wednesday when jewellery was stolen from a property in Station Road in Whittington.

Detective Constable Malcom Normandin said: "Witnesses told police they saw three males running along Station Rd into Yew Tree Avenue where they were seen getting into a van and driving off."

Earlier North Wales Police had received a report of a burglary in Chirk, during which car keys were stolen and a Black BMW four wheel drive vehicle was taken.

This was later recovered at Fox Lane, West Felton, a few miles from Whittington.

Call the police on the non-emergency number 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 quoting reference number 0082N 27/03/13.

New face to lead Chronicle advertising

David Lee-Birch

THE Midland News Association has appointed a new advertisement manager for the Oswestry and Border Chronicle.

David Lee-Birch, 39, was previously advertisement manager of the Shrewsbury and North Shropshire Chronicle.

Brought up in Oswestry, David joined the Midland News Association in 1991, and has previously worked in the role of business manager at the company's Ketley head office, and had an instrumental role in the Business Awards and Pride of Shropshire Awards.

He has undertaken the role of Shrewsbury and North Shropshire Chronicle advertisement manager for the last three years and oversaw the initial launch of the Oswestry and Border Chronicle in 2011.

David said: "I am looking forward to managing such a successful newspaper for the area where I grew up."

Sculpture course on offer in town

AN ANIMAL sculpture and figure making course will be held in Oswestry.

The Willow Gallery, in Willow Street, will be hosting the event run by artist Willie Carter.

It will take place on April 13 from 9am until 5pm.

To book a place or for more information call the gallery on (01691) 657575.

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Bells will ring out full peal marathon

A FULL peal of bells will be attempted in a parish church this weekend to commemorate important anniversaries in the history of a village near Oswestry.

Three hours of non-stop bell ringing is due to start in St Martins at 10am on Saturday.

Six bellringers have trained for months to attempt the full peal – a task so difficult they will be unable to drink, go to the toilet or even talk during the marathon. No-one else will be allowed into St Martin of Tours Parish Church to ensure the concentration of the bellringers is not disturbed.

The full peal attempt, which will see the bellringers carrying out 5,040 changes by memory, has been organised by joint tower captain Will Lander.

Mr Lander said: "The ringing will be like the equivalent of a marathon."

This year is the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the first mine shaft at the Ifton mine in St Martins and the 45th anniversary of the last shift. It is also the 45th anniversary of the 1967/8 foot and mouth epidemic.

Historians will learn of finds

THE next meeting of the Oswestry & Border History and Archaeology Group will be on Friday, April 12 in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm when Shelagh Hampton's talk will be entitled 'Drowned, Dumped or Deliberately Deposited: some archaeological discoveries from Shropshire and their find spots.

The talk will cover 'structured deposits' of the later prehistoric period in Shropshire, items which have been deliberately buried, probably for ritual purposes, many recovered from under water.

Judges finalise shortlist for business of the year awards

JUDGES have announced their shortlist for the Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Of The Year competition for 2013.

Judging for the awards took place last week when an independent panel sat alongside sponsors and now over 200 finalists, guests and sponsors will attend a glittering ceremony at the Lion Quays Waterside Resort to see the best in local business honoured by The Chronicle.

Viv Birch, Midland News Association's promotions manager said the standard of entries was extremely high. "The judges commented on the high quality this year and spent hours debating before agreeing on the shortlist," she said.

by Graham Breeze

Tristan Hartey of the Charlotte Hartey Foundation will be the guest speaker at the presentation night.

Twenty-two year old Mr Hartey, a wealth manager at Applewood Associates and brother of the late Charlotte, will speak about the setting up and running of The Charlotte Hartey Foundation which provides funding to start-up businesses, youth clubs, schools and organisations.

The shortlisted companies are:

Independent Retailer of the Year, sponsored by Oswestry Chamber of Commerce: BBR Opticians Ltd, Booka Bookshop, Honeysuckle Wholefoods Co-operative, all Oswestry.

Best Online Business, sponsored by Morris Cook: GWR Fasteners Ltd, Siop Cwlwm, both Oswestry, The Gift Experience, Ellesmere.

Best Small Business, sponsored by Lanyon Bowdler; Elegant Finishing Touches, GWR Fasteners Ltd, Stonehouse Brewery Ltd, all Oswestry.

Young Business Entrepreneur, sponsored by The Charlotte Harty Foundation: Gemma Manning-Bentley of Gemmipop Designs, Oswestry; Matthew Price of Price Electrical Ltd of Llanymynech; Sarah Rowlands of Purebeauty, Welshpool.

Young Business of the Year, sponsored by Turner Peachey: Elegant Finishing Touches, GWR Fasteners Limited, both Oswestry, Purebeauty Ltd, Welshpool

Customer Service, sponsored by Aubrey Kirkham Funeral Directors: Agritel Ltd, BBR Opticians, Stonehouse Brewery Ltd, all Oswestry

Innovation Award, sponsored by The Pickstock Group: Derwas of Welshpool Ltd, Parry & Evans, Welshpool.

Business of the Year, sponsored by the Oswestry & Border Chronicle: Applewood Wealth Management, Lanyon Bowdler, both of Oswestry, The Gift Experience, Ellesmere

Community Champion, sponsored by Lion Quays Waterside Resort: British Iron Work Centre, Cambrian Heritage Railways, RJAH Orthopaedic Hospital Foundation Trust, all Oswestry.

New B&B is in running for friendly award

A BED and breakfast business has been nominated for a national award for being the friendliest B&B of the year.

Big Bear Lodge in Melverley has already been put up for a prestigious AA award just eight months after opening.

It is up against thousands of other establishments across the UK to get to the finals, due to be held in London on May 28.

Proprietors Mark and Rachael Dann said they were thrilled to be chosen.

Mr Dann said: "We are so thrilled and taken aback to be nominated for the B&B of the year by the AA.

"We are new to the business and are still learning but what has been lovely is the number of visitors from all over the world who have enjoyed their stay here.

"We even have guests from nearby Shrewsbury and Oswestry who just want a getaway and appreciate what is here on our doorstep."

Big Bear Lodge has a log fire and has been built to resemble a luxury ski chalet in the heart of Shropshire with views across the Shropshire/Welsh hills.

Mr Dann said: "We really want to make people feel welcome and enjoy Shropshire as much as we do.

"It has so much to offer and the stunning scenery is as good as anywhere in the UK," he added.

The winner will be announced next month at St Ermin's Hotel in London.

Big Bear Lodge is AA four star rated B&B with camping pods and outdoor activities including paragliding and canoeing.

Snow damage closes street

Guttering which was damaged in the snow is made safe.

Cross Street in Oswestry closed for work to be carried out. *Pictures: Peter Shah.*

A MAIN street through Oswestry's town centre was closed after heavy snow brought down guttering from some of the buildings.

Cross Street was shut on Monday by Shropshire Fire and Rescue at about 2pm after guttering fell from the Coral Bookmakers and Red Cross shop.

As a precaution motorists were stopped from driving through and the pedestrian access to the two shops was restricted.

A covered walkway was built so that shoppers could still get to the other shops.

A spokesman for Coral Bookmakers said they hoped work would be completed yesterday.

He said: "There were staff in the shop at the time when the guttering fell. I think it was quite a sight. No one was hurt. Shropshire Council has brought contractors in."

Red Cross retail field manager Catherine Craig said: "The safety of volunteers, staff and customers is our priority and thankfully no-one was injured in this incident.

"Unfortunately it has meant we have had to close the shop until the problem is fixed.

"This is a particular priority as we are running our Shop Drop for Syria."

Elsewhere in the town guttering fell from a property in Salop Road and also from the new £6.9m Fairholme care home, in Shrewsbury Road, which is due to see residents moving in this month.

NEWS in brief

Story sessions at local libraries

OUCH! That's the theme for story sessions at two local libraries during the Easter holidays.

Children aged five to 10 years are invited to go along for stories about bumps and bandages and will then be able to look inside a vehicle manned by representatives of St. John's Ambulance. Sessions are taking place on Friday, April 12 from 11am to 12 noon at Gobowen Library and from 2pm to 3pm at Oswestry Library .

Meanwhile, children in the Ellesmere area can pop in to Ellesmere Library for Easter paper crafts and stories on April 12 from 10.30am to 11.30am.

All sessions are free but places are limited so please pre-book your place with library staff.

For more information, telephone 01691-677388 or email **oswestry.library@shropshire.gov.uk**

Store staff step in to clean area

STAFF from a supermarket in Oswestry have been out in the community collecting litter.

Staff members from Sainsbury's went to the Cattle Pen area of the town near the old railway line where they collected rubbish and cleared vegetation.

The work was carried out so Cambrian Heritage Railway could run a successful Easter holidays event.

Trustee of CHR, Andrew Tullo, said: "The energetic group were lucky to get this work in before the snow."

Going Japanese

A VILLAGE garden club will be delving into the history of Japanese gardens. Members of Llanymynech Garden Club will be meeting on Tuesday at 7.30pm in the village hall. Call (01691) 656665 for more details.

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Arnold, 73, to attempt daring dinghy challenge for hospice

A DARING 73-year-old is to circumnavigate Wales by sea and inland waterway in a purpose-built dinghy to raise cash for Severn Hospice.

Arnold Grayston, from Pant, is taking on the epic 550 mile challenge in memory of his wife, Karen, who passed away at the Shrewsbury hospice in 2011.

The pensioner, who is no stranger the high seas having previously been commodore of Shropshire Sailing Club, has christened his boat 'All By Water'.

He is hoping to raise £5,000 through the challenge, which will see him journey along the River Severn out to the sea by Anglesey, before returning along the River Dee and travelling along the Shropshire Union Canal, Llangollen Canal, Montgomery Canal, River Morda and River Vyrnwy.

by Graham Breeze

Staff from Severn Hospice gathered at Frankwell Quay, in Shrewsbury, to christen Mr Grayston's specially-made dinghy.

He said: "Without being morbid, death is something that happens to us all. When our time comes all we can hope for is dignity and the best possible care, which is what Severn Hospice provided for Karen.

"As a family we were in awe of those who cared for Karen in her last few days.

"Before she was admitted to the hospice in Shrewsbury she was cared for by Maggie, Garmson, one of the many hospice nurses that work out in the community providing care to patients in their own homes. As a small token of our appreciation for all she did for Karen we have asked Maggie to officially name the boat before we launch it on the River Severn where it will be blessed by the hospice's Chaplain Harry Edwards.

"We're hoping to start the challenge in May or June, weather permitting. Hopefully the money we raise will help another family like us during such a difficult time."

Mr Grayston added: "I'd like to thank all those who are supporting me throughout this challenge. Suzuki have kindly loaned me the engines and Ribeye have assisted me with the specification of the dinghy so it is suitable for the challenge."

Visit **www.justgiving.com/allbywater**

Arnold Grayston, The Reverend Harry Edwards and Maggie Garmson, nurse specialist from Severn Hospice. *Picture: Peter Shah.*

Talks on 20mph plan for town

CALLS for Oswestry town centre to become a 20 mile an hour zone was due to go before town councillors last night (Wednesday).

The 20s Plenty campaign for Oswestry is being supported by a councillor who says it would help make the town less intimidating for pedestrians and cyclists.

Councillor Saffron Rainey has put a notice of motion to Oswestry Town Council's development and planning committee for the council to propose the town centre becomes a 20 mile an hour zone.

The councillor is backing a 20s Plenty campaign which is being championed by Sarah-Charlotte Peace, a cyclist who suffered serious injuries in a road accident in Salop Road last year. She spent two weeks in hospital and still needs physiotherapy.

"Benefits of a 20 miles an hour limited include fewer crashes and severe injuries and on average 20 per cent fewer casualties," she said.

Visit **www.peacecycling.blogspot.co.uk**

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NEWS

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Breakfast to help children in Malawi

CHILDREN in Malawi, one of the poorest countries on the planet, will benefit when bacon and eggs are served in Oswestry this weekend.

Christ Church United Reform Church, based in Arthur Street in the town, will host a charity breakfast on Saturday between 10am and 1pm costing £4 for adults and £2 for children.

Margaret Kerr, event spokeswoman, said: "Medic Malawi supports a hospital, orphanage, malnourishment centre and schooling for a community in rural Malawi.

"Run entirely for volunteers, Medic Malawi is special because every penny goes to those who need it and there are no UK costs.

"When we heard about the marvellous work of Medic Malawi we wanted to help and we hope that as many people as possible will come to our breakfast, eat heartily and enjoy the occasion and give generously.

"Donations, whether large or small, all make a real and direct difference to the lives of the people," she added.

For further information regarding the breakfast event call (01691) 423662.

Bride-to-be is sharing her slimming success

VICKIE Haywood is looking forward to walking down the aisle next Valentine's Day – without worries of how she will look in her wedding dress.

For, after seeing holiday snaps of herself, Vickie realised she had to start shedding the pounds, and has lost more than two stone in just eight months.

Now the 37-year-old from Oswestry has vowed to help others achieve their ideal weight by opening her own Slimming World group in West Felton.

by Sue Austin

Vickie joined Slimming World last year because she is getting married to fiance Paul on February 14 next year.

"Even though I knew I was overweight I never thought it was that bad until we returned from a holiday and I looked at the photos," she said.

Confident

"It was then I realised that I needed to do something about my weight as I didn't want to look like that on my wedding photos.

"One of my mum's friends had been attending Slimming World and lost lots of weight, so I decided I would give it a go. I am so glad I did.

" My new figure has made me feel more confident and I am really looking forward to walking down the aisle next year.

"My whole family enjoy the same meals and I still get to have some chocolate every day and even a few drinks at the weekend."

Now she is running her own Slimming World group at West Felton Village Hall every Monday at 7.30pm.

"I enjoyed being part of a group of people all striving to be slimmer and healthier," said Vickie.

"The support I received from my fellow slimmers and my consultant really helped me achieve my target weight ready for my big day next February. I wanted to bring West Felton all the happiness I found from being part of my group.

"It is a very social gathering with taster evenings, competitions and quizzes to help us all on our weight loss journeys."

For more information contact Vickie on (01691) 570162 or 07706 445238 or turn up at West Felton Village Hall, Monday evenings at 7.30pm.

Vickie Haywood before her weight loss.

Vickie after losing more than two stone.

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Posh jumble sale to raise charity cash

A POSH jumble sale will be held in memory of a Shropshire schoolboy who died suddenly while on a summer activity course.

Friends and family of St Martins teenager Matthew Dewhirst are organising the fundraiser.

The talented 17-year-old died in July from Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome while on a training course at Ellesmere College.

A foundation has been set up in his memory to raise funds for the Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) organisation which provides screening for Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome.

His mother Sue Dewhirst said: "We are planning a very posh jumble sale event on April 18.

"Suzannah Younger Jenkins, a former Miss Great Britain, and Jamie Lee Williams, former Miss Galaxy International, are involved with the event, with Suzannah being one of the main organisers.

"It promises to be a great fundraiser and we are hoping for over £1,200."

The jumble sale, which will include wines and canapes, is being held at the home of David and Michelle Potts in Kinton near Shrewsbury.

Money raised will go towards staging screening days which detect heart problems in the young.

Mrs Dewhirst said: "Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome has been mentioned twice this week on the television, first time on Bang Goes the Theory and again on BBC Breakfast, so the more publicity we can raise the better."

The jumble sale will run on April 18 from 6.30pm to 9.30pm and a similar event will run the following day from 10am to 1pm.

Entrance costs £5 and while wine and canapes will be on offer on April 18, the following day guests can enjoy a coffee and a Danish. For more details call 07976 645603.

Thumbs up for centre after workers praised by parents

A SURE Start centre in Oswestry has been given a good review by a government watchdog.

by Chrissy Symmons

The Oswestry Area Children's Centre is run by Shropshire Council and has its main base at Woodside Primary School, in Gittin Street.

Ofsted inspectors arrived at the centre last month and have since published a report which states it is 'highly successful at engaging with those families considered to be in greatest need of support and access to good quality services'.

Inspectors commended the centre for ensuring that 'the welfare of families is central to its work'.

It noted one parent had commented that their involvement with the children's centre had been 'a life-changing experience'.

The inspectors report said 'parents who expressed a view could not speak more highly of the centre and its staff. One parent said 'the staff are just stars'."

The report also comments that 'there is clear and convincing evidence that health outcomes are improving strongly and most outcomes are good' and 'care, guidance and support are good'.

It highlighted 'the large majority of families want to be involved in the centre, as staff are very friendly, welcoming and approachable' and 'the centre provides a wide variety of good quality services, activities and events to meet the needs of families and the community'.

The report said in the future the centre had a 'good capacity to improve' and needed to have key parent representatives on the advisory board and have effective systems to record and monitor the impact of adult education/learning and their employability.

Karen Bradshaw, Shropshire Council's director of children's services, said: "This report is a credit to everyone involved with the centre.

"We are overjoyed to see Ofsted's comments that families feel safe and welcomed at the centre.

"We are also pleased that the recent changes in the leadership team have been welcomed by our parents, partners and staff."

The centre, which covers the north west Oswestry area in Shropshire, is one of 18 children's centres in 12 clusters in Shropshire which offer a variety of services for families with young children.

For more about the centre call children's centre co-ordinator Nina Kooner or senior children's centre support worker Alex Klages on (01691) 656513.

Piggy trotters enjoy race day

Richard Powell feeds the pigs at Park Hall Farm. *Pictures: Peter Flemmich.*

The pigs get off to a flying start.

PIGS called Pinky, Perky, Porky, Greedy and Salt braved the cold to entertain crowds at an annual pig racing event at Oswestry.

Park Hall Countryside Experience hosted the races over Easter and beyond.

The five kune kune pigs are trotting towards the finishing post twice a day, every day, to try to win the prize of a trough of tasty pig nuts.

The pigs fuel themselves up for the races by eating pig pellets which are made up of ingredients including corn, barley, oats and chopped up straw.

Visitors to the tourist attraction are being encouraged to wave and cheer them along as they run past. They can also try and guess which pig will be the winner.

Rachel Mottram, marketing and education officer, said: "The pig race is a daily event.

"They weren't able to run at first because there was a lot of snow, but once the course has been cleared of the snow so it is safe for the pigs to race.

"They know the route so as soon as they hear the bucket shaking then they are off."

The pig races have been taking place for about three years now.

Cash handed to projects

ALMOST £7,000 has been handed out to go towards community projects at a village hall, sports club and churches.

Members of Ellesmere Area Local Joint Committee dished out grants totalling £6,805 at a meeting in Criftins Parish Hall in Dudleston Heath, near Ellesmere.

Ellesmere Town Council was awarded £1,126 towards repairing the town clock.

Welshampton Village Hall received £1,326 towards replacing the curtains and blinds in the building.

Criftins Bowling Club received £1,500 towards purchasing a Pro Bowl irrigation kit which will be fitted by members.

St John's Church in Lyneal was awarded £1,400 towards buying and installing a retractable screen with a projector which will link to a computer.

Committee members approved a request from Ellesmere Comrades Club for £953 towards installing a hearing induction loop to the facility.

Welsh Frankton Parish Church was awarded £500 towards a replacement lawnmower for the churchyard, which includes the car park area adjacent to the village hall.

But an application for funding from the Oswestry and District Association for the Elderly towards organising tea dances was turned down.

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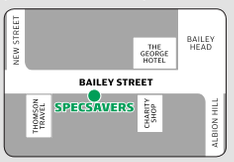

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Band joins line-up at big music festival

THE Pigeon Detectives have become the latest band to sign up to perform at the star-studded music festival in Oswestry.

Osfest – Break for the Border has announced the indie rockers will be joining the festival on the Sunday alongside The Enemy and James Arthur.

The Pigeon Detectives are an English indie rock band who hail from Rothwell, West Yorkshire.

The five-man group was formed in 2004.

Already on the line-up are chart-toppers including boyband JLS, X Factor's James Arthur and Lucy Spraggan and rapper Wiley.

The event will be taking place from May 24 to 27 at Oswestry Showground, in Park Hall, and about 2,400 tickets have already been snapped up.

A spokesman said: "We are also hoping to get more of the up and coming acts with singles playing on Radio One at the moment."

The Bone Cancer Centre Appeal has been selected by Osfest as the charity they will be supporting this year.

When the festival takes place representatives from the charity plan to be on site to help raise awareness and sell appeal wristbands.

Tickets and more information are also on the website *www.osfest.co.uk*

Headteacher jets off to start up new school in Hong Kong

A HEADTEACHER is giving up her life working at a school to set one up – thousands of miles away in Hong Kong.

A special assembly was held at Carreghofa Primary School at Llanymynech to allow staff, children and parents to say goodbye to headteacher Rachel Humphreys and to thank her for her work over the past 10 years.

Mrs Humphreys was deputy headteacher at Longlands Primary School in Market Drayton before taking over at Llanymynech.

by Iain St John

She said, said: "My husband Andrew has been working in Hong Kong as an architect designing hospitals after he was seconded there by his firm.

"I will be joining him there next month with our two children when I will be setting up a new school.

"It will have 220 pupils and will be an international school learning through an English curriculum.

"I have a lot of work to do to get the new school ready for opening by August 16 and it is just a building site at the moment.

"I will have to set up the school, employ staff, and everything else in time for the opening.

"The school will be called Discovery Minds and it will be a really good experience for us as a family.

"My six-year son Owen and four-year-old son Isaac will be pupils at the school in Hong Kong.

"We just see this as a fantastic opportunity for our family and also a huge challenge."

Mrs Humphreys, 41, said she had mixed feelings about leaving Carreghofa Primary School, its children, staff and parents, after 10 enjoyable years.

She said enjoyed the assembly staged on Wednesday to say farewell.

She said: "I was saying to the parents after the assembly that I did my best here to create a good school with happy children and to encourage the children to be the best they can be.

"I think with the help of the staff and the parents we have been able to do that and we have had a very enjoyable 10 years.

"The special assembly was really well done.

"The children spoke about their memories of me and it was lovely to hear. It was a really special day."

Rachel Humphreys with Isaac Humphreys, Owen Humphreys, Huw Evans and Natasha Hall. *Picture: Peter Flemmich.*

NEWS in brief

Town spa receives beauty firm award

BEAUTY product company Decleor has highlighted a spa in Oswestry for its 'outstanding contribution to beauty'.

Lion Quays Spa has been awarded the National Aroma Excellence Award – National Residential Spa of the Year.

The spa is one of the UK's larger hotel spas and offers a range of treatments using the Decleor brand. It also has the UK's first Decleor Spa Shop.

Jo Bullock, Lion Quays Spa manager, said: "My team and I are thrilled to have been awarded this prestigious title by Decleor. Receiving such national recognition shows our dedication to being the market leaders in the world of spa."

Lion Quays Spa already has a five out of five bubble rating from The Good Spa Guide.

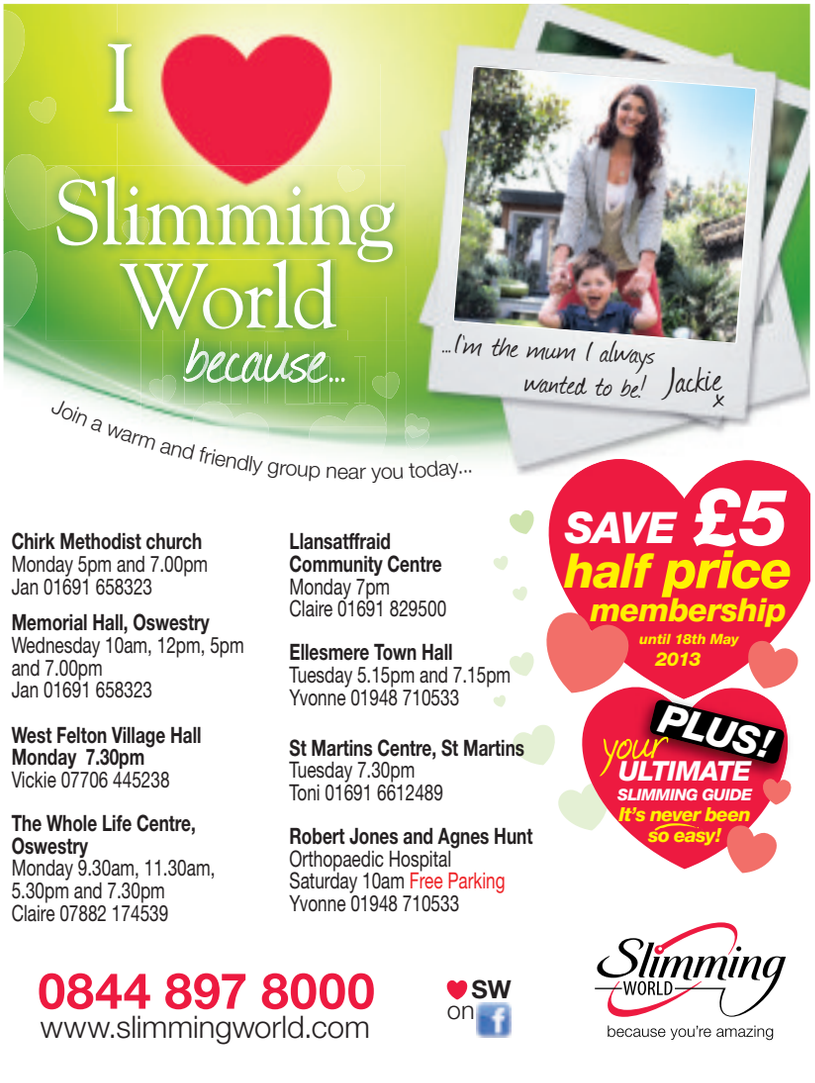
For more information about the Lion Quays Spa **visit www.lionquays.com/spa**

Wheelie bin gets destroyed by fire

A WHEELIE bin was destroyed in a fire in Oswestry in the early hours of Friday.

The blaze was spotted just before 1am in the Castlefields area of the town.

Firefighters from Oswestry extinguished the fire within 12 minutes.



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This unhappy customer is taking cash elsewhere

BREEZE ABOUT TOWN
with Graham Breeze

I'VE JUST about had enough of insurance companies trying to rip me off.

It really is time the Financial Services Authority (FSA) got to grips with companies, who are clearly exploiting customers.

After my recent bad experience with car insurers it's happened all over again with the company insuring my home.

When the annual renewal note dropped through the letter box asking for an annual payment of over £450 I decided to trawl the internet for similar deals – only to find the same company offering an identical package for just over £70 per year.

The sad part is that I have been with the same company for 25 years and have seen my loyalty rewarded with an increased premium every year. Well enough is enough. My dealings with them are about to come to an acrimonious conclusion and my hard-earned money will be spent elsewhere.

Surely it is time the FSA looked into spiralling costs and the business practices of an industry which penalises long term customers and offers amazingly low-costing policies to newcomers.

My advice is never just renew an insurance policy. Go online and see what deals are out there – you will save yourself a small fortune.

❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑

WHAT great news this week that 16 people have landed jobs at a new Oswestry restaurant thanks to a unique partnership between KFC and the town's further education college. Candidates took part in an intensive week-long training course at Walford and North Shropshire College created by the college's employer engagement department. Now 16 of the candidates, many of whom had been unemployed for some time, who took part in the course have been offered jobs by KFC while another five hopefuls are waiting to see how they get on at the next round of interviews.

What a superb initiative and one that I hope other companies will see as a brilliant way to help with their recruitment drives.

It will be no surprise either if many of the first customers through the KFC door will be college students as the campus is only just down the road. Anyone for chicken?

❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑

WHAT really wound me up this week was returning from holiday to read that Welshpool's town clerk thinks the town centre is a bustling and thriving area, untouched by the biggest economic crisis in decades.

Mr Robert Robinson told a TV documentary that Welshpool was bucking the trend as he walked a camera crew through the town centre. I suggest Mr Robinson takes another walk down the street and pops in to a few shops to discuss his ramblings with the owners. He might find the real truth about the hardships being faced by so many.

And perhaps the next time the cameras are in town Mr Robinson will turn them into Berriew Street where a once booming shopping area is now virtually deserted.

Who did you think you were kidding Mr Robinson?

❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑❑

EXCITEMENT is really mounting now that the countdown has started for the Chronicle Business Awards presentation night on May 1. Competition is greater this year with the judges commenting that the standard of entries is extremely high.

They're not telling me who the winners are so I can't wait for May 1 to arrive – like a few other nervous contestants I'm sure.

Plea for artist to restore two market hall murals

A detail from one of the intricate and colourful murals in need of restoration at the Ellesmere Market Hall.

Admirers of the two murals, Ann Hartley and Lincoln McMullun, of All Together Ellesmere.

A game of football is depicted in the bottom right corner while other sports take place elsewhere. *Pictures: Laura Dutfield*

FOR THE past 25 years, two murals have graced the walls of the Market Hall in Ellesmere.

by James Pugh

And while one of the paintings is still in good condition, the other is definitely looking its age.

Now the new company which has taken over the market is looking for someone to restore it as part of plans to redecorate the building and give it a new lease of life.

But the only payment for whoever brings the mural back to its best will be the satisfaction of a job well done, because All Together Ellesmere, which has taken over the running of the loss-making Ellesmere Market Hall, cannot afford to pay them.

And members have warned that if nobody comes forward to take up the challenge, they could be forced to paint over the murals for good. All Together Ellesmere hopes that by bringing the market up to scratch and attracting new customers, it can turn around its fortunes.

The murals were created in 1987 and 1988, and it is the oldest one which is starting to flake. They are believed to have been painted by local artist Esme Goble, who has since moved away from the area.

The murals show people's perceptions of Ellesmere and feature the Mere, the canal, wildlife, town buildings and people playing sport.

Lincoln McMullan, chairman of All Together Ellesmere, said: "The mural which is still in good condition is signed Goble, while the other is signed Goble and friends. The one that is in poor condition has gone all flaky. I guess whoever painted them learnt from the first one because the second one is in much better condition. We are inviting someone to come and do it up. It could be the artist who did it, the friends of Goble, local volunteers or an artist.

Expertise

"We would ask them to do it for free because we can't afford to pay anyone."

Councillor Alan Clarke, mayor of Ellesmere, said: "Members of the company haven't got the expertise to do the restoration on the mural.

"That is why an invitation has been put out to any members of the public to take it on.

"The alternative would be to paint that one out. I think everybody knew of Esme because of the work on the murals. She was one of the better known artists."

This week the rights to hold markets in Ellesmere were transferred from Shropshire Council to Ellesmere Town Council.

It means All Together Ellesmere has now taken on a lease with the unitary authority for the market hall, allowing them to run the markets on behalf of the town council.

The company has received a grant of £11,620 from Shropshire Council's Market Towns Revitalisation Programme to create a new kitchen and store room in the market hall and to provide new promotional material.

Mr McMullan added: "They have started work on the kitchen and the painting will start in April."

The Tuesday market will continue to be held while the redecoration takes place.

Anyone interested in restoring the mural can contact Mr McMullan on (01691) 622990.

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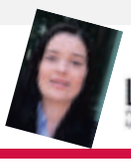
A: The short answer is yes, but under certain conditions. When applying for a financial settlement as part of divorce proceedings a husband or wife can apply to set aside a transaction made by the other, such as putting a property in another's name or granting a charge to the benefit of a third party, if certain conditions apply.

If such a transaction took place less than 3 years before the date of the divorce financial application and the court is satisfied that it is a transaction of matrimonial money or property, the court will presume that, unless proved otherwise, the person who disposed of the property did so with the intention of defeating the applicant's claim for financial settlement in the divorce.

Your son-in-law can therefore challenge the charge on your daughter's property as the charge was placed less than 3 years previously, and wasn't done at the same time as the money was lent. You and your daughter will need to provide evidence to the court that the charge was placed on the property for the good reasons that you have said, i.e. it was a genuine loan. It may be necessary for you to be joined in as a party to the application, therefore you should consult a solicitor for advice as soon as possible.

Further information relating to this question is available from Annest Jones, a Solicitor Advocate with GHP Legal.

For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194 or visit www.ghplegal.co.uk. For Personal Injury, Employment and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation



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LETTERS

01691 668094

Planting trees will enhance our town

THERE is a lot of development commencing around Oswestry with the building of hundreds of new homes, a new Smithfield and associated retail, leisure and office complex.

All this building activity will result in the loss of green land and trees. This consequence and the pollution incurred from building and population growth will mean Oswestry's carbon footprint is set to grow very significantly.

A recent scientific report on findings from US researchers in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine linked the loss of 100 million ash trees in America to an increased number of people dying from heart and respiratory disease. It is estimated that 21,000 deaths over a six-year period in America are related to a loss of trees.

Trees can improve the quality of the air we breathe. The Oswestry 2020 Plan has an important omission, a tree planting scheme for the town aiming to achieve as many tree plantings as possible and at sites where they can grow to maturity and keep their natural shape, without over pruning, so that the trees can enhance the appeal of Oswestry.

A town whose name derives from Oswald's Tree could lead the way and blaze a trail in amelioration of the environment by tree planting.

Let Oswestry, 'Oswaldes Tree', live up to its name!

J MCCARTHY
Oswestry

Big bonuses no surprise

THE latest revelation that the boss of Barclays' has awarded himself and his cronies millions of pounds in bonuses will be of no surprise to the vast majority of your readers.

Banks continue to refuse loans to businesses with the resulting consequence that no new jobs are created. Their continued refusal is endemic of the hole this country finds itself in, a hole that was the banking world's making in the first place.

And all this time Cameron and his front bench of multi-millionaires look on with indifference, presumably too scared and afraid to stand up to them.

PETER SAYLES
Oswestry

Shedding light on Kassirer family

FOLLOWING the mention of the Kassirer family on the letters page of The Chronicle (March 28) and a few weeks ago, I write with the following information:

The Kassirer family lived in my parents' house in wartime. I still live in this house, namely 13 Oak Drive, Oswestry. My parents were Arthur and Evelyn Barnett.

I have in my possession, somewhere, a photograph of Paul, my mother and our next door neighbour Elsie Richards, taken when Paul came back to visit them after the war. This photograph was taken in our front garden.

I had believed the family to be Jewish but my brother, Nicholas Barnett, confirms they were Belgian. He believes they were jewellers and left to go to London when our family returned home after the war.

Our then next door neighbour, Herbert Richards, went down to London some time after the Kassirer family had left Oswestry, to visit them.

Our house became available to the Kassirer family when my mother and brother moved into my grandparents' home in Ferrers Road. The Kassirers lived at 13 Oak Drive. This may be where Alan Johnson made the connection with Ferrers Road.

It could be that Paul Kassirer may have visited my brother from time to time in Ferrers Road. I have no knowledge of this. I was born post-war.

We had a vegetable patch in our garden which was created not by my mother but by the Kassirer family.

FRANCES DAVIES (nee Barnett)
Oak Drive, Oswestry

LOOKS like the removals people are calling, doesn't it? This is Morda House, near Oswestry, in 1963, and written on the back of the print is "Morda House, near Oswestry, an old people's home". The building was destroyed in a mysterious and still unsolved arson attack in 1982. Two men who were seen driving away at speed were never caught.

Sheep can't shelter from big freeze

WE are hearing about the impact of the weather on farmed animals. Thousands of sheep are dying in the freezing conditions.

Whilst this may sound like a consequence of extreme weather, farming practices are playing a large part in this tragedy. Wild animals can move to find shelter and food, but farmed animals are prevented from doing so by fences and gates.

This current crisis shows that even free-range farming leads to appalling animal suffering. The only way to ensure your food is truly cruelty free is to adopt a 100 per cent plant-based diet. You can order a free guide to going vegan by calling 01732 364546 or by emailing **info@animalaid.org.uk**

BEN MARTIN
Animal Aid

LETTERS to the Editor

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters

Presenter gives hope to sufferers of polio

QVC presenter Julia Roberts' decision to 'come out' as one of the thousands of people in Britain living with the effects of polio or Post Polio Syndrome (PPS) will give hope to all those facing the daily struggle to live normal lives.

Like many members of the British Polio Fellowship, Julia was diagnosed at just 14 months old and through the determination of her parents has gone on to enjoy a highly successful life and career.

While Julia and inspiring figures like her demonstrate there is hope for people living with polio, not everyone can succeed on their own. The British Polio Fellowship offers practical support – contact us free on 0800 018 0506, email info@britishpolio.org.uk or visit www.britishpolio.org.uk

TED HILL
CEO, The British Polio Fellowship

Message of Easter more than eggs

WHAT'S this Easter thing all about, chocolate eggs, bunnies and bonnets? Why should anyone want to celebrate such a gruesome event as a crucifixion?

Christians say Jesus was no ordinary man, he claimed to be the Son of God. He proved it by displaying supernatural power and translucent love, healing the sick, even raising the dead. Why did he give up and allow himself to be crucified? He faced all the cruelty and hate men could throw at him, and as he lay on the cross and let them hammer in the nails he said 'Father forgive them'. Love is stronger than hate. Jesus proved it, they buried him but he rose again. He is alive, he lives by his spirit in those who take on his mantle of love.

RON JONES
Oswestry

Apology over path initiative response

ON September 12, 2012 I sent an email to the Governors of the Marches School giving details of a project to gather support for the construction of a traffic free path, for walkers, mobility scooter users and cyclists, alongside the disused railway line linking Oswestry to Gobowen.

I included a list of organisations and businesses that backed the project and invited the school to consider sending me a message of support.

On December 4, 2012 I received an email stating: "The Governors met last night and have decided not to support your project as a governing body but that Governors will support the project individually if they wish."

I uploaded a message on to the "£5 million Sustainable Transport Grant" thread on the www.community-online forum saying that the Governors of The Marches School had rejected the proposal and that they had given no reason for their decision. I would like to apologise for misrepresenting the decision the Governors had made. To clarify, the Governors as a group did not "reject" the project: their decision was "not to support it".

On March 20, 2013 I received a further correspondence from Arthur Walpole, Chair of the Governors saying, in part, that the Governing Body broadly supported the initiative.

Mr Walpole also suggested I should apologise to the governors for asking for an apology from 14 (out of the 18 that make up the full body), for not responding to the individual letters with stamped, addressed envelopes that I delivered to the school.

I extend my full apologies to Sarah Longville (Headteacher), Bob Pearson, Mark Liquorish, Jane King, Helen Jones, Sue Harvey, Graham Harvey, David Griffith, Victoria Edwards, John Day, Terry Cripps, Richard Burn, Nigel Budgen and Arthur Walpole.

NIGEL THOMAS
Gobowen

Car park woes

I COULDN'T agree more with David Griffiths (letters, March 29) about the car park at Sainsbury's in Oswestry. It really is in an appalling state. While they are at it, they could paint the car park lines further apart so their is enough room to open a car door? Some of us have motor cars bigger than an Austin Seven!

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Offender disclosure now two years old

A SCHEME that helps keep children safe by allowing parents or carers in Mid Wales to ask police whether people with access to their family are sex offenders is marking its two year anniversary.

The Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme provides members of the public with a way to check if people who have contact with their children are a possible risk – and if it can help keep children safe, the police will pass on information to the person best placed to safeguard that child.

Detective Inspector Neil Jenkins said it was a good way to allow parents or carers to check up on vital information.

He said: "Anyone, not just a parent, grandparent or guardian, can request a check is made if someone has access to a child. If police checks flag up a record of offences that might put a child at risk, the police will consider sharing this information with the person best placed to protect the child - usually the parent or main carer.

"A request can be made by contacting police in the usual ways such as by visiting a police station, telephoning police or, where available, dialling the 101, single non-emergency number.

Dogs ban in town zones to tackle problem of fouling

DOGS will be banned from many public areas in Welshpool in a bid to prevent persistent fouling.

Welshpool Town Council wants to make five playgrounds and the town playing fields at Maesydre dog-free zones due to owners failing to clean up after their pets.

The council met last Wednesday evening to discuss the issue, and a number of dog owners were present.

The order will allow dogs on the Brookfield Road open space and on leads in the country park which will be opened near the Flash Leisure Centre off Salop Road.

by Andrew Morris

But no dogs will be allowed on Brookfield Road football pitch, Dol y Felin football pitch and Maesydre sports pitches as well as any children's playgrounds, the Skateboard Park at Maesydre and the Memorial Gardens at Maesydre.

The order will come in on June 1 and signs will be put up warning owners. There will also be CCTV cameras overseen by town council staff. A committee will be set up to police the issue and fines will be handed out to offenders, but more talks are planned on the exact details.

Councillor Steve Kaye, said: "I hope we can use this as a warning to irresponsible dog owners that we are watching you. Many people are fed up at the amount of dog mess that is about these areas and this will now not be tolerated."

Councillor John Corfield added: "I feel sorry for responsible dog owners and as per usual it is those who are irresponsible who are ruining it for everyone, but I want the message to be loud and clear that we are not an anti-dog town nor an anti-dog council –in fact we love dogs.

"But during the town council elections last year, I recall the real burning issue from constituents was that they wanted this issue sorted and the mess cleaned up and this is the way to do it."

The council agreed to set up a small committee including dog owners and vets to create a dog walking charter.

Training firm's wages award

WELSHPOOL based Cambrian Training is the first training provider in Wales to become accredited as a UK Living Wage employer.

The award-winning work based learning provider, which has a workforce of 42 employees with offices also in Holyhead, Colwyn Bay, Brecon and Llanelli, is one of only six elite organisations throughout Wales to receive official recognition.

The Living Wage Campaign, which has been running for a decade, aims to ensure that workers and their families have an adequate standard of living and can live free from poverty.

"The company is delighted and proud to achieve this recognition, taking into account the current economic climate and the fact that the majority of the workforce is employed in one of the lower paid areas of the UK," said Arwyn Watkins, Cambrian Training Company's chairman and managing director.

Book celebrates panto stars

SOME of the local stage stars of yesteryear came together for the launch of a new book recently. Alan Crowe has written Oh Yes It Is which covers the characters and performances of the town's pantomime society. Many of those came together at the Royal Oak to support the launch. The book is available from Flaunt It, Number 14 or Welshpool Tourist Information Centre.

Foreign fare gets a regular town date

A CONTINENTAL food and craft market will become a regular fixture in Welshpool under plans by the town council.

The market, which could feature up to 15 stalls, was given the go ahead at a meeting of the council last Wednesday.

The council hopes the market could be similar to a continental market which will be held in nearby Oswestry on Saturday and Sunday.

Robert Robinson, town clerk, said: "The Council Services and Property Committee considered the request for a food and craft market comprising 15 stalls at its latest meeting.

"The recommendation from the committee was that the town clerk be given the authority to arrange for such markets to be held in the town."

The council agreed unanimously to the proposal without comment.

In April 2011, the town council revived the old street market in the town and stalls are positioned along Broad Street each Monday.

At Oswestry's continental market, stallholders from across Europe plan on setting up 25 pitches selling items from France, Italy, Germany and Belgium.

Stalls will be set up along Bailey Head, Bailey Street and Cross Street.

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Singer and musician are ready for didgeri-duets

Beck Sian, who lives in Welshpool. *Picture: Peter Flemmich.*

by Sue Austin

TWO didgeridoos will help take people on a unique musical journey tomorrow (Friday).

The Oswestry-based didgeridoo healer Chris Thorn will be performing a concert with Australian singer/songwriter Beck Sian in the Pant Village Hall.

Now living in Welshpool and working at Powis Castle by day, Beck Sian moved from Melbourne in 2006 and is no longer sure if she will ever return to Australia.

She is known for her alternative takes on old supernatural ballads.

"Back in Australia, I have a great friend named Stax a gifted didgeridoo player and I was fortunate to have a few lessons in how to play one, before I moved here. Then I was singing at the Maesbury Marsh Canal festival last year and I met Chris Thorn, not only a wonderful didgeridoo player and musician, but he is also a healer."

"Chris and I decided to try combining my singing with his 'didgeridooing' and the result is very lovely. We performed a little lunchtime concert together at Powis Castle back in January and we enjoyed it so much that we decided to put on a full concert."

"Our concert at Pant Village Hall will be a very unique musical journey and will include songs from my three albums, performed by Chris and I on guitar and didgeridoo. I'll be doing some improvisational singing and chanting with Chris' meditative, healing compositions, and I'll join Chris in a didgeridoo duet."

Tickets for the concert are £7, available on the door or by e-mail, **info@becksianmusic.com**

Chris moved Shropshire from Gloucester in 2008, where he worked as a psychiatric nurse for over 30 years.

He said: "There is plenty of circumstantial evidence that the low vibrations of the Didgeridoo have a healing influence on our bodies and indeed our mind."

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04 (04)	FREELANDER TD4 SE Silver	£6,950

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Car seat fittings revealed as unsafe

OVER half of the child car seats checked by safety officers in a recent campaign were not fitted correctly, according to figures released by Powys County Council.

Fifty five out of 105 seats that were checked in four towns, including Welshpool, needed an adjustment by officers from the council's Road Safety Unit.

Only 31 did not need any adjustment at all while 14 needed major adjustments. A further 41 seats needed a minor adjustment while advice was given in connection to 19 seats.

Sarah Morris, the council's senior road safety officer, said: "Please do not be afraid of asking for our advice. We are trained and available to offer advice and show you the correct way to fit your child car seat.

"With so many makes and models of seats available, it can be confusing for parents and carers to know if the seat is correct for the child, the car and also to ensure that it is fitted correctly.

"We are also urging parents to ensure that everyone responsible for their child know how to fit their car seat. We have seen a number of relatives who have said that mum or dad have put the car seat in and that is how it has stayed."

For advice e-mail **road.safety@powys.gov.uk**

Railway's founders are all aboard for anniversary trip

FOUNDING members of a railway line which is celebrating its 50th anniversary will take a ride on the train to mark the special occasion.

Welshpool & Llanfair Light Railway marks its 50th birthday on Saturday and some of the original enthusiasts who set up the line will return to the track for a celebratory journey.

Andrew Charman, railway spokesman, said nostalgia trains would be running on the line this weekend from Llanfair Caereinion to Castle Caereinion, near Welshpool.

by Andrew Morris

He said: "On Saturday, April 6, 1963, a small group of railway enthusiasts realised a dream when the Welshpool & Llanfair Light Railway reopened for business – seven years after the eight-mile long narrow gauge line had been declared uneconomical by British Railways and closed.

"Over this coming weekend some of those original members will be present when the Welshpool & Llanfair – now one of the leading tourist attractions in Powys – celebrates 50 years of running as a heritage railway.

"The opening event of the anniversary year will see a recreation of that first day of operation half a century ago. Between the normal service trains on both Saturday and Sunday special Nostalgia Trains will be running from Llanfair Caereinion to Castle Caereinion, now the mid point of the line but in 1963 the limit of working – services from Llanfair to Welshpool were not restored until 1981."

Mr Charman said the nostalgia trains will follow the opening day timetable as closely as possible. Inside the carriages will be displayed storyboards detailing how the railway has evolved over the past 50 years, from humble beginnings with services run on a shoestring to today's professional operation that thousands of visitors enjoy each year.

He added: "The Nostalgia Train will make three return trips from Llanfair Caereinion to Castle Caereinion each day."

The fare, adults £8.50, children £3.50; includes a commemorative leaflet plus a special edition souvenir ticket. Tickets are limited and booking is advised at **www.wllr.org.uk** or by calling (01938) 810441.

The opening day train at Castle Caereinion on April 6, 1963 . The line's original Beyer Peacock locomotives remain in operation.

Fear over supply as gas bill hits £4k

COUNCIL chiefs will monitor the gas meter at a town hall after an 'alarmingly' high monthly bill led to fears that the supply is being hijacked.

Welshpool Town Hall ran up a monthly bill of £4,000 in February, almost £1,000 more than usual, so town clerk Robert Robinson said he has begun monitoring the situation daily.

He said he has discussed the issue with the supplier, but it threw up no answers so he has raised the question of some underhand tactics at work.

He said: "I need to raise the issue of heating bills at the town hall because we had a gas bill for more than £4,000 for one month and it has been £3,000 tops in the past.

"During the summer months the cost has barely changed year on year over the past five years, but this bill is £600 more than the corresponding time last year.

"In July last year the bill was £1,000 and then we have this bill now which is a lot and we haven't even had a winter like we did two years ago."

Mr Robinson said that in a bid to find out what was going on, he was now carrying out daily meter readings.

"I am reading the meter myself daily and I will report to the town council in the near future my findings."

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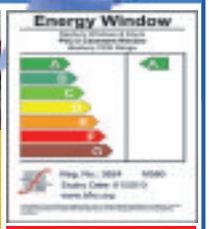

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NEWS in brief

Village hall hosts a spring concert

THE Oswestry & surrounding area Association for the Elderly have organised a Spring Concert in Morda Village Hall on Monday.

The concert, from 2pm to 4pm, will feature, amongst others, entertainment by Ruth Moore Williams from Llangollen, the well-known singer/songwriter entertainer and comedian.

A spokesman said: "What better way to forget the wintry weather for just £1 – and you get tea and biscuits!"

Popular hill walk weekend planned

A POPULAR family fun weekend which began as a hill walk for Africa will continue this year with even more entertainment planned.

The Trefonen Hill Walk Weekend in Trefonen, near Oswestry, will be held this year between May 24 and 27.

Hundreds of people descend on the village each spring bank holiday weekend to take part in activities from a range of walks of all lengths.

Coffee mornings

A COFFEE morning is being held to raise cash for two churches. The event will be held at Court Cottage, in West Felton, on April 18 from 10.30am until noon and entrance will cost £2.

Change to council homes is welcomed by town tenants

COUNCIL tenants say the changeover in the way their homes are managed will give them a bigger say in the running of the housing stock.

A new company has taken over the management of the 4,200 council-owned homes in the Bridgnorth and Oswestry areas.

Last Wednesday tenants in Oswestry welcomed the move but urged others to join their working group and get involved in the future of their homes.

Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing will be wholly owned by Shropshire Council, which will maintain ownership of the properties.

by Sue Austin

Rather than the current system which sees purely councillors make decisions about the housing, the company will be run by a separate board, made up of councillors, independent community representatives, housing staff and tenants themselves, meaning tenants will have a direct say on how their homes are managed for the first time.

The change has followed a year-long consultation process with tenants about the proposal.

During the consultation 49 per cent of tenants who responded said they were in favour of setting up a new organisation to maintain and manage their homes, and 25 per cent said they were not in favour.

At a meeting of the Oswestry Tenants Working Group at Llwynfields in the town, group chairman, Mrs Bobby Evans from Morda, said: "We hope this is going to make a big difference to the way in which tenants are viewed. In the past they have 'listened' to us but not taken any notice. Now, with tenants on the board we will have direct input into how council housing in managed."

Mrs Rita Edwards has lived in her home in College Road for 55 years. Now 72, Mrs Edwards said she hoped the change would mean that problems she had would be dealt with better.

Michael Gelling, from the Tenants and Residents' Organisations of England, and Llwyn fields resident Bobby Evans. *Picture: Peter Flemmich.*

Service point may be moved

A COUNCIL service point in Oswestry's library could be moved into the building next door, a councillor has said.

Shropshire Council is carrying out a controversial pilot scheme which has transformed Oswestry Library into a hub for its services. Since it began there have been some complaints from library users.

Councillor Steve Haworth said the idea of a hub was good but thought perhaps it should have been put in the old library, next door to the current one.

"It seems to me that the foyer of our Oswestry library, perfect as it has been for its original library usage, is too small and open to be invested as a hub as well."

He said there was no privacy for hub users, 'many of whom are emotional, sometimes angry about matters'.

The council had created an online survey find out people's views and residents had until the end of March to respond.

Body is discovered at foot of aqueduct

A BODY was discovered at an aqueduct on the Shropshire border near Oswestry.

The body of a 67-year-old man was recovered by police on Wednesday, March 27 at about 5.30pm at the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, in Trevor near Llangollen.

The man, who lived locally, was pronounced dead at the scene.

His death is not being treated as suspicious.

A spokesman for North Wales Police said: "At approximately 5.30pm on Wednesday March 27, North Wales Police and other emergency services attended in the river below the aqueduct in Trevor, near Llangollen where they recovered the body of a 67-year-old man.

"The man, who lived locally, was pronounced dead at the scene.

"He has been formally identified and next of kin informed.

"North Wales Police are not treating the death as suspicious and the matter has been referred to HM Coroner for North East Wales."

The 121ft (37m) aqueduct was built by Thomas Telford over the River Dee. It took 10 years to complete from 1795.

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Training on offer in straw building

A VAN load of straw bales will be delivered to the centre of Oswestry to help demonstrate the benefits of sustainable building.

Treflach Farm will be on Bailey Head on Saturday from 11am until 2pm at the same time as the continental market is in town.

People from the farm will be using the straw to attract attention to its straw bale building course which will take place from April 19 to 21.

Straw bales are starting to be recognised as an affordable, green alternative to bricks and mortar.

It offers lots of benefits in terms of ease of construction and insulation of properties.

The course, which will take place at Treflach Farm, will see participants building a washroom for the farm.

Staff at the farm, near Oswestry, intend to demonstrate that it is possible to create a building from locally sourced, eco materials at low cost in just a few days.

Ian Steele, owner of Treflach Farm, said: "Our vision is for agriculture to be a sustainable industry, rooted in the community, working in harmony with nature and fully providing for the needs of local people."

For more information visit **www.treflachfarm.co.uk**

Public cast eyes over plans for shaping future of town

by Chrissy Symmons

PEOPLE in Oswestry have taken a look at the draft plan drawn up to guide the future development of the town.

A drop-in event was held last Thursday from 10am until 6pm at The Memorial Hall, in Smithfield Street.

It was held by members of the Oswestry 2020 steering group who are working to develop a new community-led plan for the town.

The plan is now in its final stages and shows local people's top priorities.

Mayor of Oswestry Martin Bennett previously said that the plan was to make Oswestry a better place in which to live, work, invest and visit.

Irene Evison, from the local Resources for Change. *Pictures: Peter Flemmich.*

The drop-in event was an opportunity for the steering group to get feedback on the draft plan from residents, businesses, community groups and organisations.

Tim Morris, from Oswestry2020, said: "The plan itself is quite inspirational.

"It is positive and it recognises the difficult times the town faces. Equally we are not going to sit back and do nothing. This is something we can do to address some of the issues. Hopefully some really good projects come out of it.

"The feedback has been positive and we are really pleased. We have seen people broadly agreeing to what we are putting forward and suggesting. That is positive.

"We are confident the plan is shaping up well."

Before the draft plan was created the steering group created a survey which saw around 826 people take part including people from the University of The Third Age, members of the rural community and the three emergency services.

Now this last stage of consultation has been completed it is hoped the plan will be finalised for consideration by Oswestry Town Council at the end of April before being passed to Shropshire Council.

Residents Michael and Kay Bossen take a look at some of the proposals.

Warning over fires caused by appliances

FIREFIGHTERS are calling on people to check their dishwasher models after two dogs died in a kitchen fire.

Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service is asking the public to check their dishwasher models after the service attended three fires in the last few months involving the control module on Bosch dishwashers

The dogs died in Llanfyllin after it was believed a dishwasher caught fire on March 20.

Station Manager Ryland Williams, who attended one of the incidents, said: "We have become aware of at least three incidents in the Mid and West Wales area where fires have occurred as a result of a controller on the front of Bosch dishwashers overheating.

"In the incident on March 20 the occupiers had put the dishwasher on before leaving home for the day, only to return to find their home severely damaged."

Other fires happened in Llandeilo and another in Narberth.

Bosch has recalled 632,000 dishwashers, including some manufactured by Neff and Siemens .

The affected models were manufactured between 1999 and 2005 and have batch numbers between FD7901 through to FD8504. Contact Bosch on 0800 023 4881.

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College wins cash grant for project

DERWEN College, in Oswestry, has been awarded £260 by the BT People Awards scheme thanks to Phil James, a BT volunteer.

BT People Awards reward local community groups, charities and organisations where BT people volunteer their time.

Derwen College is one of hundreds of groups eligible for an award during this round of the scheme and impressed judges with how they would use the grant to make a difference to their group and benefit the local community.

The college plans to use its award to purchase materials for a fruit cage being built by BT Volunteers.

Derwen's Assistant Principal of Finance and Corporate Services, Andrew Smith, said "Fruit grown by the students in the cages will be used to make high-end jams, chutneys and preserves in our new food production centre, opening in the summer.

"The products will then be sold in our on-site farm shop in packaging designed in our Creative Arts department. So, the work of the BT volunteers and the financial award will benefit students all round the college."

Phil James, an Integrity manager in BT who applied for the award added: "I have been a volunteer at the college for three years."

Work on display by artist who was Picasso's muse

SIXTY years ago Lydia Corbett became the inspiration for more than 50 works by one of the world's most famous artists, and sparked a style revolution that was to influence the world.

Now, she is about to bring her own art to Shropshire – work inspired by the three months she spent as Pablo Picasso's muse.

by Chrissy Symmons

Back then she was Sylvette David, a timid 19-year-old who was spotted by the great artist as she walked through a French town near Cannes to visit her boyfriend. He asked her to come to his studio to sit for him, which she did for several months in 1954, becoming the Girl With the Ponytail, the subject of numerous paintings, sculptures and drawings.

In return Picasso became her inspiration when she became an artist, and she has seen her work exhibited across the globe.

Now aged 78, Lydia has handpicked some of her pieces to go on show in Qube gallery, in Oswestry, from April 4 until May 4.

"Picasso for me has been like a gift," she said, from her home in Devon.

"He has opened doors for me all my life. He has inspired me all my life."

She added: "When I was 19 years old I was very shy. It was a magical event.

"He was famous when I sat for him. He was 73 at the time.

"It was amazing to sit for him, I was very flattered. It gave me confidence about myself, which I didn't have."

She said she didn't know how Picasso managed to contact her as she didn't have a phone or a mobile phone back then.

"He must have seen me and waved from his garden," she said.

"I went to sit there a few times. I sat for hours dreaming and he did a lot of paintings, drawings and sculptures."

She said he used to talk to her but she was shy.

When she was at his home she saw he collected a lot of metal items and 'all sorts of objects'.

The Girl With The Ponytail also influenced another 20th century icon – Brigitte Bardot, who copied her style after seeing her walking in Cannes and took it to the world.

Qube is open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm and 9.30am until 12.30pm on Saturdays.

Inspiration strikes – a 1954 Picasso portrait of Sylvette David.

Picasso's Girl with the Ponytail.

Lydia Corbett who became the inspiration for more than 50 important works.

NEWS in brief

School reunion as ex pupils turn 50

A HIGH school reunion will be held for former pupils who are now set to turn 50.

The event, for former pupils of Welshpool High School, will be held for all those who have, or who are, turning 50 this school year to attend Welshpool Social Club on April 13 at 7.30pm.

Tickets cost £10 to include food and can be bought on the door or by calling Ann Evans on (01938) 580631.

Fire crew called to chimney blaze

A FIRE crew was sent to a house near Oswestry after a chimney fire broke out.

One crew from Oswestry was sent to the house at Melverley Green at 11.44am on Monday and used chimney rods to extinguish the blaze.

The crew was stood down and returned to base at 12.27pm.

Church concert

AN EASTER concert will be held at St Mary's Church, Welshpool, on April 13 at 7.30pm. The Guilsfield Singers will lead the concert, accompanied by the Maldwyn Strings.

Walk called off

WELSHPOOL Ramblers' scheduled walk for Sunday has been cancelled due to the non-availability of the leader.

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NEWS in brief

Exercise classes hold celebration

EXTEND exercise classes in a village near Oswestry have been running for five years – and organisers will be marking the event with cake.

The classes are held in Ruyton-XI-Towns and a small celebration will be held in the village's Victoria Room on May 16 from 9.45am.

Everyone who has helped and supported the classes over the past five years is invited.

Colin Case, spokesman for the class, said: "We shall be enjoying our usual class on May 16, starting at 9am as usual. But we will finish early at 9.45am to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a cake with our special guests."

Village hall will host tai chi class

PEOPLE can take part in some Tai Chi Chuan sessions in a village near Oswestry.

The classes are being held on Tuesdays from 7pm until 8.15pm at West Felton Village Hall.

Tai Chi Chuan is a form of exercise from Taoism, a Chinese belief system.

Classes cost £3 for the unwaged or £7 for full-time employed.

An initial/introductory session is either completely free of charge or payable by donation.

For more information about Tai Chi Chuan visit **www.taichichuan.co.uk**

Festival hailed a big success

THIS year's Oswestry literature festival was an 'outstanding success' with a host of sold-out events, delighted organisers said today.

The award-winning novelist Kate Atkinson and Michael Morpurgo, best-selling author of War Horse, were among the big names at the fourth Oswestry Festival of the Word, which took place earlier this month.

Festival director, John Waine, said: "This year has been genuinely unbelievable in terms of ticket sales, literary talent and audience feedback. The festival's reputation grows with every event and the leading literary figures we're now attracting to Oswestry as a result is truly exceptional.

"Our biggest challenge is how on earth we top this past fortnight next year."

The event began in January with a sell-out launch party at The Walls restaurant featuring Rachel Joyce – one of 2012's best-selling novelists with The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry.

Then the festival, affectionately called OsLitFest by organisers, officially got underway two weeks ago with former Children's Laureate Michael Morpurgo.

He performed alongside his wife in front of an audience of 300 people at The Marches School, in Morda Road.

Other events for readers of all ages were put on at Oswestry Library during the festival, which ran from March 8-22.

Several authors including the popular children's fiction writer, Tom Palmer, visited local schools as part of the LitFest's schools programme in partnership with Shropshire Council's Children & Young People Libraries Team.

Sian Munford from Oswestry School, an OsLitFest partner, said: "It has been a wonderfully busy and entertaining festival with a fantastic array of authors to enthuse and encourage pupils and students from five to 18 years."

Oswestry librarian Teresa Eccleston said: "We are all really excited by the enthusiasm and anticipation for next years' festival. We're fielding enquiries already."

by Chrissy Symmons

Minister's joy at investment

ENVIRONMENT Secretary Owen Paterson has welcomed a new deal to invest £25 million in bringing super-fast broadband to more than 130,000 homes in Shropshire.

The North Shropshire MP said he was thrilled at news of the contract between BT and Shropshire Council, which was signed in Shrewsbury on Wednesday.

Under the plans, 93 per cent of Shropshire's homes and businesses will have access to broadband speeds of up to 80 mega bits per second by spring 2016.

Mr Paterson said the deal was fantastic news for the county.

"This is the best news I've had this week. Superfast broadband will absolutely transform the whole county for generations to come," he said.

"It will give thousands of people, especially those trying to grow their businesses, access to the same high quality broadband urban areas have been enjoying for years."

Leaflet promotes town to tourists

A NEW leaflet has been launched promoting things to see and do in Oswestry and the surrounding area. It has been compiled by Oswestry Borderland Tourism and is available from Oswestry Border and Exhibition Centre and the Tourist Information Centre at Mile End. Elly Phillips leafs through the brochure. *Picture: Peter Flemmich.*

Total of £12,000 is raised by walk

A WALK in aid of a specialist college raised more than £12,000, despite having to be revised at the last minute because of snow.

More than 200 people took part in the walk for the Derwen College at Gobowen and organisers say after tallying up the totals the event raised £12,200 with more money expected to come in.

The walk, on Sunday, was to take fundraisers around some of the most scenic parts of the Oswestry area including the Old Racecourse, Selattyn and Hengoed, finishing at the college in Gobowen. But organisers had to quickly change the plans at the last minute because of snow.

Student support officer Allison Heward said: "The snow was deeper than anyone walking could remember ever having seen and forced a change of plan, but all concerned were determined the walk would not be abandoned.

"Instead of the usual route, the intrepid walkers set off at five laps of the college campus. Staff, students and Friends of the Derwen spent the morning clearing a safe and scenic path round the Derwen grounds."

David Kendall, of the Friends who organised the annual fundraising event, thanked the walkers who braved the weather and completed the walk.

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Quirky property has garden designed by Percy Thrower

An individual and quirky detached property that was built in the early 1970s to take advantage of panoramic countryside views is on the market with Balfours.

Arethusa, in the small village of Bronygarth, just a mile from Weston Rhyn, offers a breathtaking outlook across the valley to Chirk Castle.

Mainly designed in the shape of three hexagons, the hall has access to the kitchen and dining room comprising one hexagon, while a linked area to the second hexagon consists of four bedrooms and two bathrooms, the master being ensuite and with a walk-in wardrobe.

The kitchen, dining room and hall all benefit from underfloor heating underneath the slate flooring.

The jewel in the crown is the large sitting room on the first floor, which has a large picture window providing panoramic views towards Chirk Castle and the Ceiriog Valley.

On the lower ground floor there is an integral double garage with a wc and utility room.

The beautiful garden, which amounts to about three quarters of an acre, was originally designed by Percy Thrower and includes extensive lawns, shrubs and two magnolia trees.

Below the house is a paddock of about an acre with some fruit trees.

Arethusa is being offered for sale at a guide price of £385,000.

For further information or to arrange a viewing, contact Balfours on 01743 353511 or visit the website www.balfours.co.uk

Spacious period house backs onto open fields

The Lion House and Coach House, Meifod, is a four-bedroom period village house with great potential on a 0.469 acre plot, in a fantastic position backing onto fields.

It is for sale through Samuel Wood at a guide price of £350,000.

Accommodation comprises an entrance hall, lounge, sitting room, dining room, breakfast kitchen with Rayburn, shower room/wc, four bedrooms, split level bathroom, rear lobby, gardens and an orchard.

For further information contact Samuel Wood on 01691 659951 or visit www.samuelwood.co.uk

Detached bungalow in a peaceful cul-de-sac

On the market with JJ Dell for £148,950, number 5 Croxon Rise, Oswestry, is a detached bungalow in a quiet cul-de-sac convenient for local facilities in Cabin Lane.

With gas-fired central heating and double glazing throughout, the accommodation comprises reception hall, kitchen, front-facing lounge with brick fireplace housing a coal effect gas fire, two bedrooms, one with a large double wardrobe, and a bathroom.

There are gardens to front and rear, and a long driveway leads to a detached brick garage.

For details call JJ Dell on 01691 653437 or visit www.jjdell.co.uk

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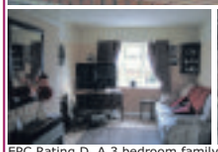
SAMUEL WOOD & COMPANY

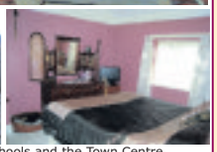
Oswestry & Border Properties

Telephone: 01691 659951

email: oswestry@samuelwood.co.uk

Oswestry





EPC Rating D. A 3 bedroom family house in an ideal location for schools and the Town Centre. Briefly comprising: 3 bedrooms, family bathroom, kitchen, Living room/dining area. Good sized enclosed rear gardens and off road parking. Ideal investment property.

£115,000

MEIFOD

EPC Rating F

- 4 bedroom period village house
- Set in approximately 0.469 acre plot backing onto fields
- Also WITH ANNEXE (The Coach House) with planning permission for conversion into a 3 bedroom dwelling
- Both properties can be purchased separately or as a whole
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL

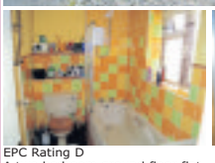
£350,000

GOBOWEN

A good sized 1930's semi detached house
Briefly comprising, Ent hall, Cloaks w.c., Lounge, Dining Room, Pantry, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas heating, pleasant gardens, Garage, off road parking, within walking distance of train station. (EPC Rating F)

£154,950

OSWESTRY



EPC Rating D
A two bedroom ground floor flat
Situated in a cul de sac position
Restyled kitchen, enclosed rear garden
Ample parking to the front.
Ideal lst time buy or investment

£89,995

Dudleston Heath

EPC Rating D. Samuel Wood & Company are proud to offer Eastwick Farm Barn for sale. A DETACHED 5 bedroom Magnificent Barn Conversion of approx 4000 sq feet, having been finished to a superb standard.The barn has grounds/paddock of approximately 2 acres. Having a wealth of features including oak beamed ceilings/walls, oak flooring, oak windows, ledged and braced doors, feature windows allowing plenty of light. A spacious family home and also benefitting from Separate Accommodation also finished

£489,000

MAESBURY MARSH

EPC Rating D

- Two bedroom detached bungalow
- Two reception, Conservatory
- Restyled Kitchen and Bathroom
- Rural views, outbuildings
- Viewing essential

£279,950

Oswestry

A 3 Bedroom Mid-Terrace House close to all amenities, Town Centre, Park etc. The accommodation briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, Cloaks, Kitchen, Lounge, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom to the first floor and Bedroom to the 2nd floor. Double glazing, gas fired central heating and security system. Enclosed garden to the rear, car parking space. NO CHAIN.(E.P.C. rating C)

£155,995

Oswestry

A very well presented 2 bedroom semi detached property and located in a quiet cul de sac position. The property benefits from ample parking with driveway for approximately 4 cars and a good sized rear garden. Having two bedrooms, bathroom, Lounge, and breakfast kitchen. The property must be viewed to be appreciated. (EPC Rating C)

£117,995

ELLESMERE

EPC Rating D. Samuel Wood are delighted to offer this 5 bedroomed Period Residence offering versatile spacious family accommodation. The property is believed to date back to the 17th century and offers a wealth of original features to include a beautiful feature oak staircase and exposed ceiling timbers. Positioned conveniently and within walking distance of the small market town of Ellesmere. Also having the advantage of the mere closeby with lovely gardens and woodland and the North Shropshire Canal. Easy access to larger towns Oswestry (8 miles), Shrewsbury (16 miles) and Chester (25 miles). A viewing is highly recommended.

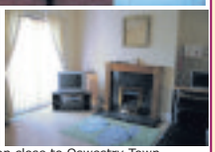
£329,950

ST MARTINS

A very well presented 4 bedroomed detached bungalow. Approached via a gravelled driveway through farmstyle gates set back from the road. Ent hall, Reception hall, Lounge, Breakfast kitchen, utility room, family bathroom, bedroom one, bedroom two, first floor landing, bedroom three and four, cloaks.w,c,. Double garage/workshop. Viewing recommended (EPC Rating D)

£249,950

Oswestry



A deceptively spacious 3 bedroomed house in a sought after location close to Oswestry Town Centre. The property briefly comprises, living room, separate dining room, kitchen, bathroom, 3 bedrooms. An internal inspection is recommended.(EPC ordered)

£151,000

3 Queen's Court, Oswald Road, Oswestry, SY11 1RB, Opposite Iceland. 01691 659951
www.samuelwood.co.uk oswestry@samuelwood.co.uk
Offices at: Shrewsbury, Craven Arms, Ludlow and Mayfair office London

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TOWN & COUNTRY

Tel :01691 679631

LETTINGS

Four Crosses, 1 Bed Flat £325 p.c.m.
Oswestry, 1 Bedroom Flat £315 p.c.m.
Oswestry, 2 Bed Apt £475 p.c.m.
Gobowen, 2 Bed End Ter £475 pcm
Chirk, 3 Bed Semi £495 p.c.m.
Llanrhaeadr, 4 Bed House £500 p.c..m
Glyn Ceiriog, 3 Bed End Terr £500 p.c.m.
Chirk, 3 Bed Semi-Detached £500 p.c.m.
Llangynog, 3 Bed Det Bung £600 p.c.m.
Oswestry, 3 Bed Bung £600 p.c.m.
Crickheath, 3 Bed Barn Conv £850 pcm
Dudleston Heath, 3 Bed, 6Acres £1850 pcm

OSWESTRY

- Detached Bungalow
- Close to Town
- Three Bedrooms
- Garage and Parking
- No Chain. EPC E
- Sought after

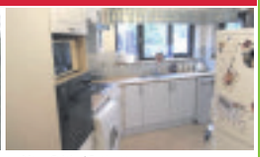
£179,950

LUDLOW

- To Be Sold at Auction
- 24th April 2013
- Barn Conversion
- One Bedroom
- Idyllic Country Location
- Ideal Holiday Home/ Let
- EPC Rating - E

Guide price £99,000

TREFONEN



- Semi Detached Cottage
- One Bedroom
- Oil Central Heating
- Upvc Double Glazing
- Many Original Features
- Ample Off Road Parking
- Popular Village Location
- EPC Rating - E

£115,000

GLYN CEIRIOG

- Three Bed End Terraced
- Deceptively Spacious
- Off Road Parking & Garage
- No Chain
- Good Sized Gardens
- Sought After Location
- Many Original Features
- EPC Rating - F

£124,950

WHITTINGTON

- NO CHAIN!!
- THREE BED END TERRACE
- MODERNISED THROUGHOUT
- UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- AMPLE OFF ROAD PARKING
- SOUGHT AFTER VILLAGE
- EPC Rating - C

£134,950

OSWESTRY

- Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms & En Suite
- Garage and Utility Room
- Extended Accommodation
- Upvc Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Popular Residential

£145,000

PANT

- Detached Cottage
- Three Bedrooms
- Off Road Parking & Garage
- Upvc Double Glazing
- Oil Fired Central Heating
- Two Reception Rooms
- Edge of Village Location

£210,000

OSWESTRY

- NO CHAIN
- Detached Bungalow
- Three Bedrooms
- Fully modernised
- Driveway and Garage
- Gas Central Heating
- Upvc Double Glazing
- Edge Of Town Location

£165,000

GLYN CEIRIOG

- End Terrace Cottage
- Three Bedrooms
- Edge Of Village Location
- Views Over Countryside
- Off Road Parking & Garage
- Sought After Location
- Beamed Ceilings
- EPC Rating - E

£149,950

OSWESTRY

- Victorian Town House
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Old Coach House
- Gas Central Heating
- Ample Parking and Gardens
- Close To Town Centre
- NO CHAIN. EPC - F

£184,950

OSWESTRY

- Detached Family Home
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Beautifully Presented
- En Suite and Utility
- Parking and Garage
- Modern Kitchen & Bathroom
- Upvc D.G. & Gas C.H.
- EPC Rating - C

£199,950

LLANSANFFRAID

- THREE BEDROOMS
- OIL CENTRAL HEATING
- GARAGE
- FRONT AND REAR GARDENS
- VILLAGE LOCATION
- VIEWING RECOMMENDED
- EPC Rating - F

£199,950

OSWESTRY

- Semi-Detached Period House
- Three Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking
- Views Over Parkland
- Many Original Features
- Newly Fitted Kitchen
- A Must See Property

£209,950

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NEW PRICE

Glyn Ceiriog — **COED-Y-GLYN**
4 BED DET HOUSE
3 RECEPTION ROOMS
PERIOD FEATURES
EPC RATING E
OIRO £399,950

Crickheath — **OWLBROOK**
3 BED DET BARN
NO CHAIN
2 ACRES
EPC RATING D
OIRO £359,000

Bettisfield — **THE WHISPERS**
5 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
MODERN APPLIANCES
EPC RATING D
OIRO £339,950

NEW

Arddleen — **ROCK COTTAGE**
4 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
DOUBLE GARAGE
EPC RATING D
OIRO £314,950

NEW

Oswestry — **10 WILFRED OWEN AVENUE**
4/5 BED DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
ENSUITE BEDROOMS
EPC RATING C
OIRO £265,950

NEW

Selattyn — **CHAPEL HOUSE**
CONVERTED CHAPEL
NO CHAIN
3 RECEPTION ROOMS
KITCHEN/ BREAKFAST ROOM
OIRO £239,950

NEW

Four Crosses — **SHAFTESBURY**
4 BED DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
OIL CENTRAL HEATING
EPC RATING D
OIRO £239,500

Oswestry — **37 HAMPTON ROAD**
3/4 DET DORMER BUNGALOW
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING E
PVC DOUBLE GLAZING
OIRO £229,000

Oswestry — **85 CABIN LANE**
4 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
CONSERVATORY
EPC RATING D
OIRO £219,950

NEW

Oswestry — **1 PEVEREL DRIVE**
4 BED DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING D
OIRO £215,995

Maesbury Marsh — **OAKDENE**
3 BED DORMA BUNGALOW
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
CONSERVATORY
EPC RATING F
OIRO £214,950

Llansilin — **BERWYNFA**
3 BED DET BUNGALOW
NO CHAIN
PVC DOUBLE GLAZING
EPC RATING D
OIRO £189,950

Oswestry — **57 HENLEY DRIVE**
4 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
DOWNSTAIRS W.C
EPC RATING C
OIRO £189,950

Morda — **THE CEDARS**
3/4 BED DET BUNGALOW
NO CHAIN
INTEGRAL GARAGE
EPC RATING F
OIRO £179,950

NEW

Oswestry — **18 PARK STREET**
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
DOWNSTAIRS WC
EPC RATING D
OIRO £169,950

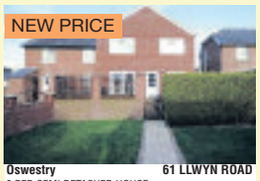
Oswestry — **11 PARK AVENUE**
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
PERIOD FEATURES
EPC RATING D
OIRO £149,950

Oswestry — **14 ROUNDWOOD CLOSE**
2 BED DET BUNGALOW
LIVING ROOM/ DINER
GAS CENTRAL HEATING
EPC RATING D
OIRO £147,500

Llanfyllin — **RANDOM COTTAGE**
2 BED DET PROPERTY
NO CHAIN
KITCHEN/DINER
EPC RATING E
OIRO £144,950

NEW

Oswestry — **68 YORK STREET**
FOUR BED MID TERRACE
NO CHAIN
TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING E
OIRO £139,950



NEW PRICE

Oswestry — **61 LLWYN ROAD**
3 BED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING D
3 DOUBLE BEDROOMS
OIRO £137,500

Oswestry — **11 WATS DRIVE**
3 BED SEMI-DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING E
£129,995

Oswestry — **7 COMBS LA VILLE CLOSE**
2 BED SEMI-DET HOUSE
KITCHEN/DINER
MODERN INTERIOR
EPC RATING D
OIRO £124,950

Oswestry — **17 ASCOT ROAD**
2 BED SEMI-DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
CONSERVATORY
EPC RATING D
OIRO £119,950

NEW

Oswestry — **91 APPLEWOOD HEIGHTS**
2 BED MID TERRACE HOUSE
VILLAGE LOCATION
KITCHEN/ DINER
EPC RATING C
OIRO £117,000

NEW

Pant — **WOODSIDE**
3 BED DET BUNGALOW
NO CHAIN
IN NEED OF MODERNISATION
EPC RATING F
OFFERS OVER £114,950

Oswestry — **82 CASTLE STREET**
2 BED TERRACE HOUSE
NO CHAIN
KITCHEN/ DINER
EPC RATING C
OIRO £109,950

Oswestry — **14 KING STREET**
2 BED END TERRACE
NO CHAIN
LIVING/DINING ROOM
EPC RATING D
OIRO £106,000

Oswestry — **28 ERW WEN**
2 BED END TERRACE
GAS CENTRAL HEATING
PVC DOUBLE GLAZING
EPC RATING D
OIRO £104,950

Oswestry — **6 PARK TERRACE**
2 BED TERRACE HOUSE
NO CHAIN
MODERN KITCHEN
EPC RATING C
OIRO £97,500

Oswestry — **3 ABRAHAM COURT**
1 BED GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT
RETIREMENT PROPERTY
EPC RATING C
COMMUNAL GARDEN
OIRO £84,950

Oswestry — **WEST POINT**
3/4 BED DET HOUSE
PVC DOUBLE GLAZING
OFF ROAD PARKING
EPC RATING E
PCM £625

Oswestry — **2 CAMBRIAN MEWS**
3 BED TOWN HOUSE
ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
ALLOCATED PARKING
EPC RATING
PCM £595

Oswestry — **6 WILLOW MEWS**
3 BED TOWN HOUSE
TOWN LOCATION
GAS CENTRAL HEATING
EPC RATING C
PCM £575

Morda Oswestry — **2 MILARS FIELD**
3 BED MEWS HOUSE
KITCHEN/ DINER
ALLOCATED PARKING
EPC RATING C
PCM £525

Oswestry — **THE APARTMENT**
2 BED APARTMENT
ALLOCATED PARKING
GAS CENTRAL HEATING
EPC RATING D
PCM £475

West Felton — **19 SCHOOL ROAD**
2 BEDROOM UNFURNISHED TERRACED HOUSE
ALLOCATED PARKING
LOCAL AMENITIES
PETS CONSIDERED
PCM £450

The Property Ombudsman

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Halls 1845

NEW

Pyllau Gwyddau, Llanrhaeadr

Price: £285,000

Dating back to the 1700's this detached South Facing cottage benefits from lovely views and is situated on a quiet country lane a few miles from Llanrhaeadr. The cottage offers character and charm throughout. The property is warmed by oil fired central heating which is complimented by the solar photovoltaics panels and benefits from double glazing. The cottage gardens are a notable feature of the property with babbling brook and views to Craig Orllwyn Hill.

- Reception Hall/Utility Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Dining Room, Lounge
- First Floor Landing
- Three Bedrooms
- Large Bathroom
- Gardens & Grounds

Contact Oswestry

NEW

View Cottage, Llanymynech

Price: £285,000

This cottage benefits from magnificent views over the English/Welsh borderland to The Breidden Hills and across to the Shropshire Plain. Nestled on the side on Llanymynech Hill this property is a walkers dream with many routes and trails across unspoilt countryside, Offas Dyke or Montgomery Canal.

- 3 Double Bed Cottage
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Sits In Approx 0.65 Of An Acre
- Countryside Views
- 3 Timber Sheds & Summerhouse
- Current EPC Rating E

Contact Oswestry

NEW NO CHAIN

Amberwood, Pant

Price: £299,950

This detached family home is deceptively spacious, situated on an elevated position with panoramic views across the Shropshire Plain to the Breidden Hills and Rodney's Pillar.

- 5/6 Bedroom (2 With En-Suites)
- 2/3 Receptions & Conservatory
- Oil CH & DG
- Double Garage & Parking
- Versatile & Adaptable Accommodation
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry

NEW NO CHAIN

Regent Court, Oswestry

Price: £118,500

A well appointed two bedroom first floor apartment within easy level walking distance to the town centre.

- 2 Bed Apartment
- Walking Distance To Town
- Double Glazing
- Parking
- Communal Areas
- Current EPC Rating B

Contact Oswestry

NEW NO CHAIN

Trinity Close, Gobowen

Price: £155,000

A SPACIOUS THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY IN THE POPULAR VILLAGE OF GOBOWEN

- 3 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gardens
- Parking

Contact Oswestry

NEW

Peach Tree House, Monfa, Llansilin

Price: £184,950

Dating back to 1860 this DETACHED family home offers spacious accommodation.

- 4 Bedrooms
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Countryside Walks
- Oil Central Heating
- Character Features
- Current EPC Rating

Contact Oswestry

NEW NO CHAIN

Paddock Cottage, Nantmawr

Price: £329,000

A beautifully appointed and attractively designed modern detached country house with landscaped gardens having mature trees, hedges ad shrubs, adjoining paddock and detached outbuilding, set in APPROXIMATELY TWO ACRES of hillside grazing.

- 3 Bed (Master & En-Suite)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Gardens, Orchard & Paddock
- Oubuilding
- Parking
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry

NEW NO CHAIN

Wenffrwd Smithy, Llansilin

Price: £249,950

A three/four bedroom character cottage with babbling brook situated on the outskirts of Llansilin. The property offers immense character and charm and the accommodation is very adaptable and versatile.

- Former Smithy
- Annex / Holiday Cottage Potential
- Gardens
- Parking
- Countryside Views

Contact Oswestry

NEW NO CHAIN

Station Road, Whittington

Price: £164,950

An immaculate semi detached Victorian family home offering spacious accommodation with parking, carport/garage and garden

- 2 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Updated By Current Vendor
- Gas CH & UPVC DG
- Garage / Carport & Parking
- Garden & Patio Area
- Current EPC Rating E

Contact Oswestry

NEW

College Road, Oswestry

Price: £174,950

Occupying a large corner plot, this detached three bedroom bungalow has been updated by the current owners.

- 3 Bedroom
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gas Fired Central Heating
- Detached Garage, Car Port & Parking
- Large Corner Plot
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry

NEW NO CHAIN

The Hawthorns, Queens Head

Price: £299,950

A four bedroom executive family home with three reception rooms, high specification kitchen and two master suites. The property has the benefit of oil central heating, double glazing and solar panels making this a very energy efficient property.

- Large Reception Hall, Study, Cloakroom
- Sitting Room, Lounge, Kitchen
- 2 Master Suites & 2 Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Double Garage & Parking, Gardens
- Current EPC Rating B

Contact Oswestry

NEW NO CHAIN

Glanrafon, Llanwddyn

Price: £235,000

Set in a beautiful rural location a spacious five bedroom country cottage with character and charm throughout, offering two reception rooms, parking and gardens.

- 5 Bedroom
- 2/3 Reception Rooms
- Gardens & Parking
- Rural Location
- Viewing Recommended
- Current EPC Rating F

Contact Oswestry

Oak Drive, Oswestry

Price: £182,950

This immaculate 1930's three bedroom semi detached family home offers spacious accommodation and is situated in a pleasant cul de sac location.

- 3 Bed (2 Double)
- 2 Receptions & Conservatory
- Garage & Parking
- Gardens
- Gas CH & DG
- Current EPC Rating E

Contact Oswestry

NO CHAIN

Trefonen Road, Morda

Price: £299,950

A deceptively spacious property 'tucked away' off the passing lane, dating back to the late 1800's.

- 4 Double Bedrooms
- 2 Reception Rooms & Conservatory
- Detached Annex
- Garage / Workshop
- Gardens & Parking
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry

NO CHAIN

Rhos Cottage, Quinta

Price: £249,950

This charming detached Victorian cottage is situated in a most pleasant rural location with lovely countryside walks on the doorstep and with excellent commuter links a short drive away

- 3 Bedroom
- Oil Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gardens Front, Side & Rear
- Garage Block With Kennel / Dog Run
- Parking

Contact Oswestry

Harlan House, Nr Weston Rhyn

Price: £475,000

A spacious individual 4 bedroom barn conversion in grounds extending to approx 1.8 acres and offering much character and flowing accommodation which would especially suit family living.

- 4 Bedrooms
- 2/3 Reception Rooms
- Detached Outbuilding
- Garage & Parking
- Approx 1.8 Acres
- Current EPC Rating C

Contact Oswestry

NO CHAIN

Waen Cottage, Llansantffraid

Price: £395,000

A charming detached country cottage situated in approximately 1.280 acres of splendid gardens and grounds offering spacious characterful accommodation located in a pleasant rural location.

- 4 Bedroom (2 With En-Suites)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Detached Tandem Garage & Parking
- Paddock & Gardens
- Approx. 1.280 Acres
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry

Breidden Court, Four Crosses

Price: £325,000

An executive detached four bedroom family bungalow situated down a quiet lane in the popular village of Four Crosses.

- 4 Bedroom (2 With En-Suite)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Detached Double Garage & Parking
- Oil Central Heating
- Gardens To Front, Side & Rear
- Village Location

Contact Oswestry

Head Office	01743 284777	Shrewsbury Auction Centre	01743 462620	Shrewsbury	01743 236444
Bishops Castle	01588 638755	Ellesmere	01691 622602	Oswestry	01691 670320
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Wem

Malthouse Cottages
- End terrace house
- Two Bedrooms
- Garden ▪EPC Band C

£480 pcm

Hodnet

Shrewsbury Street
- Terrace house
- One bedroom
- New shower room ▪EPC Band E

£495 pcm

Ellesmere

St John's Hill
- Three/four bedrooms
- Heated dry cellar
- Patio/courtyard ▪EPC Band E

£575 pcm

Shrewsbury

St Michaels Terrace
- Semi detached house
- Two bedrooms
- Garden ▪Parking

£575 pcm

Shrewsbury

Hotspur Street
- Terraced house
- Two bedrooms
- Cellar ▪Rear Garden

£575 pcm

Shrewsbury

Llewellyn Place
- End of terrace house
- Two bedrooms
- Parking space & EPC Band C

£625 pcm

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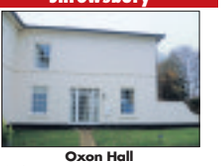
Bicton

Oxon Hall
- Two bedroom apartment
- Second floor ▪Parking space
- Communal gardens ▪EPC Band C

£725 pcm

Shrewsbury



Oxon Hall
- End of terrace house
- Three bedrooms ▪Garden
- Garage ▪Parking ▪EPC Band D

£725 pcm

Shrewsbury

Glamis
- Detached bungalow
- Three bedrooms
- Garage & Parking▪EPC Band E

£695 pcm

Hanwood

Copperfield Cottage
- Detached house
- Three bedrooms ▪Garden
- Ample parking ▪EPC Band C

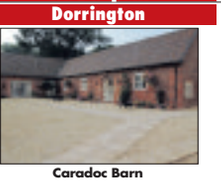
£795 pcm

West Felton

Four Trees
- Four bedroom bungalow
- Large gardens ▪Ample parking
- EPC Band E

£895 pcm

Dorrington



Caradoc Barn
- Barn conversion
- Three bedrooms
- Fully furnished ▪Parking

£900 pcm

Shrewsbury

Oakley Street
- Detached house
- Four double bedrooms
- Garden ▪Double garage

£1,450 pcm

Eaton Constantine

Eye Sheepcote
- Detached barn conversion
- Four bedrooms ▪Large garden
- EPC band D

£1,250 pcm

Longden

Tamarind House
- Detached five bedroom house
- Three doubles, 2 singles, 1 study
- Gardens ▪Double garage ▪EPC Band D

£995 pcm

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Residential Sales

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A fine Grade II* Georgian Hall with extensive outbuildings, beautiful gardens and grounds and distant views

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Master Bedroom with En Suite Bathroom and Dressing Room. 3 Further Bedrooms. 2 En Suite Bathrooms.
One Bedroom Flat. Two Bedroom Guest Wing.Two Bedroom Staff/Guest Cottage. 4 Acre Lake. Gardens and Grounds.
Further Cottage, Buildings/Commercial Lets, Farmland (67 acres) and Fishing available by Separate Negotiation

About 38 acres

Guide Price £2,000,000

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Looking for a new home? Get a 'Helping Hand' from Fletcher Homes with up to 20% assistance!

Get down to Wat's Meadow - Fletcher Homes this weekend, for the perfect location.

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Wat's Meadow - Gobowen nr. Oswestry SY11 3JS

A mix of 2, 3 and 4 bedroom homes within walking distance of Gobowen village.

Call 01691 679490 Showhome open 11am - 5pm (Thurs-Mon)

Alternatively email: homes@fletcherhomes.co.uk or visit www.fletcherhomes.co.uk

NHBC

Talk to our representative for full details. Illustration shows The Leaton at Wat's Meadow. YOUR HOME MAY BE AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE OR ANY OTHER DEBT SECURED ON IT. Mortgage offer is subject to application and status. Limited offer available on selected plots only. Subject to contract.

FLETCHER FAMILY HOMES

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POOL QUAY, NR. WELSHPOOL

- Registered Smallholding with Outbuildings
- 3.25 Acres
- 3 Bed. Semi-Detached Cottage
- Dining And Sitting Room
- Study
- Sun Room
- Parking
- EPC Rating - JJD815

£349,000

BABBINSWOOD, WHITTINGTON.

- Detached Cottage
- Occupying quiet position
- UPVC D/G
- Kitchen & Utility
- Sitting Room
- Conservatory
- 3 Beds.
- Parking
- Large Rear Garden
- EPC Rating - JJD813

£158,000

OSWESTRY

- Modern Detached Bungalow
- GFCH & D/G
- Kitchen
- Lounge
- Two Bedrooms
- Garage And Parking
- Front And Rear Gardens
- Cul De Sac Location
- EPC Band - JJD814

£148,950

OSWESTRY

- Well Appointed Detached House
- GFCH & UPVC D/G
- Dining Kitchen
- Sitting Room
- Good Size Conservatory
- Three Bedrooms
- Ample Parking
- Attractive Rear Garden
- Garage
- EPC Band - JJD812

£135,000

LLANFYLLIN

- Grade II Listed Three Storey House With OFCH
- Two Reception & Breakfast Kitchen
- Large Annex Requiring Completion
- Four/Five Bedrooms
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Walking Distance Of Town Centre
- Scope For Off Road Parking
- EPC Band F

JJD799

£199,950

GLYN CEIRIOG, LLANGOLLEN

Outstanding country property in 5 acres of natural woodland

- Exceptionally well appointed
- 3 reception rooms
- Period features
- Kitchen
- 4 Beds with master en-suite
- 2 Bathrooms
- Double garage
- EPC Band E

JJD602

O.I.O. £410,000

WHITTINGTON

- Three Bed. Semi-Det.House
- GFCH & D/Glazing
- Kitchen And Lounge
- Garage Converted To Well Equipped Office
- Ample Car Parking
- Front And Rear Lawned Gardens
- Modern Residential Development
- EPC Band C

JJD795

£154,950

OSWESTRY

- Excellent Investment Opportunity
- Valuable Investment Properties
- Mixed Commercial/Residential Use
- Town Location
- Car Parking
- P/P for conversion of additional residential unit
- Rental Income £26,000 p/a approx.

JJD708

OFFERS INVITED ON £265,000

TREFONEN

Fine Individually Designed Detached Bungalow

- GFCH & UPVC D/G
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Two Bedrooms
- Garage
- Attractive Garden Plot
- Elevated Position Overlooking Village
- EPC Band E

JJD806

NO CHAIN £189,950

PANT

Individually designed highly appointed three bed.detached house

- O/F C/H, D/G
- Lounge & Study
- Breakfast Kitchen & Utility
- Sun Room
- Bathroom & En-Suite
- Garage & Car Parking
- Good Sized Garden Plot
- Extensive Views
- EPC Band C

JJD782

£420,000

PANT, NR. OSWESTRY

- Oil Fired Central Heating
- Entrance Porch
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Breakfast/Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Enclosed Front Garden
- Parking for 4/5 cars
- Workshop
- Includes B/Plot with Full P/P for Dwelling
- EPC Band F

JJD807

£350,000

NR. OSWESTRY.

Attractive And Well Appointed Three Bedroomed Detached House.

- GFCH & UPVC D/G
- Two Reception Rooms
- Utility
- Three Bedrooms
- Separate WC
- Detached Garage
- Fine Gardens
- Outskirts Of Oswestry
- EPC Band D

JJD779

£239,950

OSWESTRY (01691) 653437 - (01691) 680212

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6 Cae Robert, Meifod

- Mid-Terrace 3 Bed House
- Sitting Room, Kitchen/Dining
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Electric Heating. Double Glazing
- Separate Garage. Enc rear garden
- First Time Buy/Investment Opportunity
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 66

£125,000

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

3 Minafon, Pontrobert

- Modern 3 Bed Mid Terrace House
- Sitting Room, Kitchen/Dining, Bathroom
- Electric Heating. D/Glazed, Cavity wall & loft insulated
- Front lawn. Rear garden
- River Vyrnwy to front with fishing rights
- Energy Performance Rating = 43

£130,000

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

9 South View, Oswestry

£137,500

- Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Lounge, Kitchen/Breakfast & Sun Room
- Single garage and gardens
- Elevated site overlooking the town
- In need of substantial remedial internal repair
- Genuine cash offers only. No chain

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

5 Glanyrafon, Berriew

£178,000

- Spacious and Extended 3 Bed Semi-Detached House
- 3 Reception Rooms, Kitchen Breakfast Room
- Solid Fuel & Electric Heating (where stated)
- D/Glazed. Att Double Garage. Ample Parking
- Lawn & patio. Would benefit from modern refitting
- Energy Performance Rating = 43

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

Bodynfoel. Guilsfield

£180,000

- Link Detached 3 Bed Country Bungalow
- Kitchen, Utility, Dining & Sitting Rooms
- Bathroom. Oil Fired Heating. Double Glazed
- Single Garage. Lawns to front and rear
- Open rural views to front, over farmland
- Southerly aspect. Within a mile of Guilsfield Village
- Energy Performance Rating = 34

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

Roxburgh, Salop Rd, Welshpool

- Semi Det 4 Bed Edwardian Town House
- Ent Hall, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen
- Rear Entrance with Sep W.C & Boiler Room
- 3 Bedrooms , Family Bathroom on First Floor
- 4th Bedroom & Office on Second Floor
- Front lawn, rear garden with pond & outhouse
- Gas C/H, Part D/G.

£189,950

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

Coed Issa, Penrhos, Llanymynech

£200,000

- A Detached 3 Bed Bungalow in a rural location
- Spacious Sitting/Dining Room with fireplace
- Kitchen/Breakfast, Utility, Shower Room, Bathroom
- Double Garage. Oil Central Heating. Double Glazed
- Good sized plot incorporating lawn & shrubs
- In Need of Modern Upgrading & Refitting
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 36

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

Camrose, Four Crosses, Llanymynech

£225,000

- Det 3 Bed Village Bungalow within spacious plot
- Sitting and Dining Rooms, Kitchen. Bathroom
- Oil Fired Heating. Double Glazed
- Attached Garage. Several outbuildings
- Spacious rear garden backing on to farmland
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 58

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

Y Llwybr Arian, Penybontfawr

£249,950

- Det 4 Bed Dormer Bungalow, Refurbished & Extended
- Kitchen/Dining, Sitting Room, Utility
- Two Ground Floor Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Two First Floor Bedrooms with En-suites
- Oil Fired Heating. Double Glazed
- Ample Garden Grounds. Centre of village location
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 70

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

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Montgomery • 01686 668833
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RICHMOND HARVEY

Wern, Weston Rhyn

Enjoying a delightful hamlet location, Richmond Harvey Properties are pleased to release this substantial 4 bedroom character detached family residence built circular 1803 which offers a wealth of character features to include exposed beams, arched windows, attractive gable, carved fascia boards and finials adding to the unique and individual qualities present. Plas Cerrig also has the benefit of a separate Detached Garage conversion presently utilised as a hobbies room which lends itself to conversion into a self contained apartment subject to the necessary consents. The property enjoys delightful mature gardens and grounds including a paddock in all approximately 1.5 acres or thereabouts. Truly a one off purchase!

Offers in Region of £599,950

Llansillin, Powys

Enjoying a delightful edge of village location with surrounding countryside views, Richmond Harvey Properties are favoured with instructions to market this modern 4 bedroom detached family home which has been finished to an exceptionally high specification to include traditional welsh stone and an Eco friendly design incorporating solar panels, rainwater harvesting system and a multi-fuel Dunsley log burner. The property briefly comprises: Porch, Entrance Hall, Study, Living Room, Spacious Kitchen/Dining Room, Sun Room, Utility, WC, First Floor Landing, Master Bedroom Ensuite, Three Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Oil Fired Central Heating, Double Glazing, Driveway providing ample off-street parking, Garage and Low Maintenance Gardens. Viewing Fully Recommended.

Offers in Region of £259,950

NAEA

rightmove.co.uk

Old Chirk Road, Weston Rhyn

Enjoying an edge of village location with pleasant views to the fore, Richmond Harvey Properties are pleased to release this deceptively spacious 3 bedroom semi detached house which has been extended over the years and offers scope for improvement. The property briefly comprises: Porch, Entrance Hall, Living Room, Kitchen/Family/Dining Room, Sun Room, First Floor Landing, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Fired Central Heating, Double Glazing where stated, Driveway providing parking for several vehicles, Detached Garage and Gardens. For Sale with NO ONWARD CHAIN.

Offers in Region of £129,950

Vyrnwy Place, Oswestry

„WITH RE-FITTED KITCHEN AND BATHROOM (INCLUDING SHOWER CUBICLE)„ Benefitting from a driveway providing ample parking provision, two bedroom end terraced dwelling house which enjoys a convenient location for local town amenities. The property briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, Lounge with feature fireplace, Re-Fitted Kitchen/Dining Room, Rear

Offers in Region of £115,000

Malt Kiln Cottages, Whittington

Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to release this character semi detached cottage to the market which is situated within the sought after village of Whittington. The property briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, Lounge with feature fireplace, Attractive Kitchen/Dining Room, First Floor Landing, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Fired Central Heating, Car Port, Parking and Garden. Viewing Fully Recommended.

Offers in Region of £169,950

Henlle Lane, Weston Rhyn

Offering a wealth of character features, Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to release this character detached barn conversion which has been sympathetically renovated by the present owners. The property enjoys a delightful location over looking open parkland towards Henlle golf course. With flexible living and the potential for annexe or bed and breakfast facilities, Henlle Barn offers an exceptional opportunity to purchase a superb country home which is well placed for the A5 road network linking up to the North West and West Midlands. For Sale with No Onward Chain.

Offers in Region of £410.000

Bentley Drive, Oswestry

„SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION„ 3 bedroom 3 storey town house with Gas Fired Central Heating, Double Glazing, Gardens to front and rear, Parking and Garage. Viewing Fully Recommended.

Offers in Region of £175,000

Graig Cottages, Pontfadog

Tastefully extended semi detached character cottage situated within the picturesque Ceiriog Valley, which enjoys an elevated position with fine views to the fore. Early viewing fully recommended by the owners agents

Offers in Region of £139,950

Bron-Y-Waun, Chirk

„ RE-FITTED KITCHEN AND BATHROOM - NO CHAIN„ Mature 3 bedroom semi detached family house, which is conveniently placed for local amenities and transport links, Driveway providing

Offers in region £119,950

Tregarthen Lane, Pant

Impressive 4/5 bedroom detached period residence which comprises: High Spec Fitted Kitchen which has been designed to provide a light and airy room opening into a lovely snug room with log burner and dining room, Living room and sitting rooms which retain the character and charm of the original property, Further reception room/office, Ground Floor Bedroom and Shower Room, Master Bedroom with Dressing Area and Ensuite, Three Further Bedrooms and Luxury Family Bathroom, Driveway, Turning Circle and Det. Double Garage.

Price Guide £495,000

Polska Street, Penley

„PRICED TO SELL - WITH NO CHAIN„ Enjoying a pleasant cul-de-sac location within this recently constructed new development, Modern 3 bedroom detached family house which

Offers in Region of £159,995

Arddleen, Powys

A character 4/5 bedroom tastefully extended detached cottage backing onto the Montgomery canal with a range of useful out buildings with further potential subject to necessary consent set in approximately 1/3 acre, convenient for the A483 road link. Viewing fully recommended to appreciate the excellent property on offer.

Offers in Region of £314,950

Summerfield Close, Oswestry

„RECENTLY RE-FITTED KITCHEN AND BATHROOM„ 3 bedroom semi detached house with Gas Fired Central Heating (Underfloor to Living Room and Kitchen, Radiators to First Floor

Offers in Region of £127,950

Llanfyllin, Powys

A truly spacious country residence set in approx. 3.8 acres of gardens and grounds which was formerly a working farm enjoying a delightful rural situation. Driveway providing extensive parking, Garage and Large Detached Outbuilding. Internal Viewing Fully Recommended.

Price Guide £540,000

Wern, Llanymynech

4 bed detached edge of village residence which enjoys truly delightful views and landscaped gardens of approx 0.25 acre. The property briefly comprises: Three Reception Rooms, Generous Kitchen Breakfast Room, Utility, Cloakroom, Master Bedroom with Ensuite, Three Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Oil Fired Central Heating, Driveway and Double Garage. Viewing Fully Recommended.

Offers in Region of £310,000

Orchard Street, Oswestry

„OFFERS INVITED„ 2 double bedroom mature terraced town house to the market which enjoys a convenient location for local town amenities and benefits from an attractive re-fitted Kitchen

Open to Offers £97,950

Valley Court, Morda Road

A tastefully improved and substantial detached Victorian residence. Comprising:- Reception Hall, Inner Hall, Cloakroom, Cellar, Drawing Room, Dining Room, Breakfast Room, Family Room, Elegant Kitchen, Rear Hall, Utility, Rear Cloakroom, Study, Spacious Landing, Master Bedroom with Ensuite, Bedroom Two with Dressing Room, Walk-In Wardrobe and Ensuite, Three further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Annexe: Open Plan Living Room/Dining Room/Kitchen, First Floor Bedroom, Bathroom and Sauna, Gymnasium with Bar, Landscaped Gardens with Sweeping Driveway and Triple Garage.

Guide Price £850,000

Sarnau, Llanymynech

5 bedroom detached country residence which enjoys a delightful situation on this small select development.The property enjoys a generous plot with Gardens to Front and Rear, Double width driveway and Double Garage. Internal Viewing Fully Recommended.

Price Guide £450,000

Bwlch-y-ddar, Llangedwyn

4 bedroom detached smallholding set in approx 8 acres enjoying far reaching countryside views with accommodation comprising: Entrance Porch, Living Room with feature fireplace, Sitting Room, Breakfast Kitchen, Side Lobby, Ground Floor Bedroom 4, Wet Room, First Floor Landing, Three Further Bedrooms and Bathroom, Oil Fired Central Heating, Cottage style garden, Open Fronted Workshop, Car Port and Two Grass Paddocks. Viewing Recommended.

Offers in Region of £385,000

Mount Drive, Oswestry

5 bedroom Victorian detached family house which retains many original period features and enjoys a private and much sought after locality conveniently placed for local town amenities. The property benefits from extensive landscaped gardens, garage, workshop and sun room. Viewing fully recommended to fully appreciate the accommodation and location on offer.

Price Guide £365,000

Glebe Meadows, Gobowen

Enjoying a pleasant edge of village location within a select development of similar modern executive detached properties Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to introduce this spacious and most well appointed 4 bedroom detached family house to the market which briefly comprises: Reception Hall, Cloakroom, Study, Living Room, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Utility, First Floor Landing, Master Bedroom Ensuite, Three Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Generous Rear Garden, Double Width Driveway and Double Garage. MUST BE SEEN.

Offers in Region of £310,000

Queens Meadow, Queens Head

4/5 bedroom modern executive detached house with Oil Fired Central Heating, PVC Double Glazing, Alarm System, Brick Paved Driveway Providing Ample Off Road Parking, Integral Garage and Enclosed Rear Garden. The property has the benefit of being sold with NO ONWARD CHAIN.

Offers in the Region of £279,950

Pant, Nr Oswestry

A most individual and spacious 4 bedroom split level detached family house which enjoys a delightful elevated position set in generous gardens. The property offers excellent road links via A483 and briefly comprises: Reception Hall, Ground Floor Bedroom with Ensuite, Utility with access to useful basement storage, First Floor Gallery Landing with access to Balcony, Living Room with Balcony, Dining Room, Kitchen, Lobby, Garden Room, Three Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Driveway providing extensive parking with turning provision, Garage with automatic up and over door. Early Viewing Recommended.

Offers in Region of £259,950

www.richmondharvey.com

Chirk Office Unit 2B Greystones • Church Street • Chirk • Wrexham • LL14 5HA t 01691 777879

Oswestry Office 27 Cross Street • Oswestry • Shropshire • SY11 2NF t 01691 654222

www.hallsgb.com

Halls 1845

Collective Property & Land Auction
Friday April 26th 2013

Amenity Woodland, Nr Worthenbury, LL13 0HG
Guide Price: £15,000 - £20,000

A most interesting parcel of amenity Woodland, with a mixture of predominantly deciduous trees, mainly maturing Oak trees, ideal for a variety of leisure opportunities (subject to necessary local authority consent).

- Extensive road frontage onto the B5069 Worthenbury to Malpas council road
- Extending to approximately **2.5 acres or thereabouts**

Ellesmere 01691 622602 EA3686

16 Market St, Ellesmere, SY12 0AN
Guide Price: £40,000 - £60,000

A mature semi-detached town centre property comprising a ground floor commercial premises with maisonette above, situated in a convenient trading location in the centre of the popular lakeland town of Ellesmere.

- Requiring total refurbishment throughout
- 1 Bed Maisonette with Kitchen, Living Room & Bathroom
- Concrete yard to rear
- Ideal investment opportunity

Ellesmere 01691 622602 EA3679

Grazing Land at All Stretton, Near Church Stretton
Guide Price: £60,000 - £80,000

An excellent opportunity to acquire a desirable block of grazing land with road frontage in a scenic and sought after locality. **In all about 8.55 acres.**

- Land contained within a ring fence and easily divided.
- Road frontage, track access and brook water supply.
- Part planted with Poplars.
- Of keen interest to farmers and equestrian users

Shrewsbury 01743 236444 HR2459

The Clawdd, Selattyn, Nr Oswestry, SY10 7NP
Guide Price: £100,000 - £120,000

A most interesting detached timber bungalow, with spacious gardens in a magnificent rural setting with, yet still close to the popular village of Selattyn.

- In need of total renovation/ demolition and rebuild
- (subject to permissions)
- Superb uninterrupted views over unspoilt countryside
- Extending, in all, to **0.4 of an acre**

Ellesmere 01691 622602 EA3687

Building Plots & Barn at Ightfield, Near Whitchurch
Guide Price: £225,000 - £250,000

A most interesting development project comprising: a barn of great potential, 2 building plots with planning permission and adjacent paddock.

- Partly converted barn with planning permission for 2 dwellings
- Planning permission for 2 further open market dwellings
- Village location
- Paddock to rear
- Triple open fronted garage built

Whitchurch 01948 663230 WH0482

Lyndale, Affcot, Church Stretton, SY6 6RL
Guide Price: £125,000 - £140,000

A characterful semi-detached cottage set in the rural setting of Affcot Originally constructed of stone with a later single storey brick extension, this attractive cottage offers immense scope to improve the current accommodation.

- 2 bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen and bathroom
- Good size gardens
- A recent oil fired central heating system has been installed

Bishops Castle 01588 638639 BO1328

Accommodation Land at Middleton, nr Oswestry
Guide Price: £7,000 - £8,000 per Acre

A most productive and versatile level block of grassland in a convenient location just outside the North Shropshire Town of Oswestry.

- Access on to a quiet council maintained lane
- Extending to approximately **9 acres** or thereabouts
- Ideal for horses

Ellesmere 01691 622602 EA3691

Croxton Cottage, Nr Whitchurch, SY13 3DB
Guide Price: £180,000 - £200,000

A superbly situated genuine detached country cottage of great charm and character, in a super unspoilt rural setting.

- Requires total renovation and modernisation and/or demolition (subject to permissions)
- Gardens and Pasture Paddocks
- Extending, in all, to approximately **3.7 acres** or thereabouts.
- Immense potential

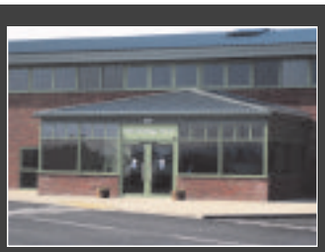
Ellesmere 01691 622602 EA3669

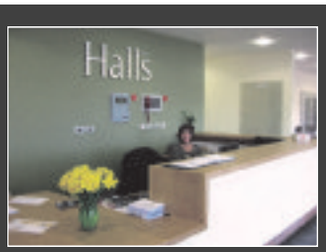
Yew Tree Cottage, Ellerdine Heath, TF6 6QP
Guide Price: £190,000 - £210,000

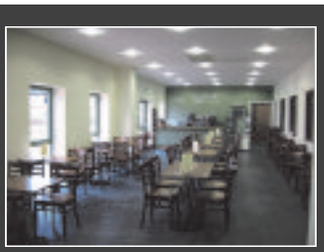
A superbly situated genuine detached 3 bedroomed country cottage in a totally unspoilt rural location, with super surrounding gardens, pasture paddocks and super views in all direction.

- Great potential for further improvement and/or extension (subject to consents)
- Extending, in all, to approx. **1.34 acres** or thereabouts.
- Further adjacent **3.4 acres** available

Ellesmere 01691 622602 EA3675







1403 at Halls

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Bishops Castle 01588 638755
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Worcester 01905 611066

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Parry Lowarch residential

ESTATE AGENTS VALUERS CHARTERED SURVEYORS AUCTIONEERS LETTINGS

Knockin Heath, Oswestry

A mature residence requiring general modernisation and upgrading, set in gardens and grounds extending to 3.03 acres, further adjoining paddock extending to 2.15 acres available by separate negotiation. Hall, drawing room, dining room, snug/family room, kitchen/breakfast room, boot room/utility room, downstairs WC, six bedrooms, family bathroom, WC. Adjoining former doctor s surgery with its own external door, giving scope for conversion to ancillary accommodation. Oil CH, garaging, workshops, store rooms. Large gardens to the rear with orchard, large vegetable garden, adjoining small area of woodland to the front. EPC Band: E

Guide Price: £595,000 3061

Llandrinio, Llanymynech

An individually designed detached family house set in good sized gardens with adjoining two acre paddock (further land available by separate negotiation), with indoor swimming pool in separate detached block with adjoining offices and integral single garage. Further attached double garage, oil CH, PVC DG. Hall, sitting room, dining room, family room/study, large sun room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, cloakroom, four double bedrooms, two en-suite shower rooms, family bathroom. Situated on the outskirts of the village and within easy travelling distance of Oswestry, Shrewsbury and Welshpool. EPC Band: D

Guide Price: £525,000 3078

Llanyblodwel, Oswestry

A detached Grade II Listed country property, which has been renovated over recent years retaining the character and features of the original building. Entrance hall with cloaks lobby, sitting room having the original stone fire surround, dining room, living room, kitchen, utility room, galleried landing, master bedroom, guest bathroom, second floor spacious bedroom/games/office area. Outside there is an independent office/library. Gardens to the front and rear, ample parking, garage. EPC Band: G. For further information contact 01691 655334.

Guide Price: £450,000 2858

Llansantffraid

A detached property which has been totally re-designed and refurbished to make a spacious family home or as a small luxury B&B which it is currently being utilised for. Reception hall, feature central hallway, sitting room, conservatory, large dining room, study suite, small gym, kitchen/breakfast room, family room, laundry room, downstairs bedroom with en-suite shower room, mezzanine landing/sitting area, three double bedrooms with en-suite bathroom/shower rooms. PVC DG, propane gas CH, triple carport, easily maintained gardens, ample parking. EPC Band: D

Guide Price: £425,000 2991

Llangedwyn, Oswestry

An attractive and extremely spacious, detached barn conversion, with uPVC DG, electric storage heating, wood burner, double garage, gardens and small paddock amounting in all to over one acre or thereabouts. Entrance hall, main reception hall, living room, dining room, cloaks/WC, large farmhouse style kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, large landing, four good bedrooms, en-suite shower room, family shower room. Occupying a delightful rural position set in the middle of its garden grounds, enjoying superb country views over the surrounding fields and beyond. EPC Band: E

Guide Price: £410,000 2744

Penygarreg Lane, Pant

A substantial detached mature bungalow, set in good sized gardens and wooded dingle extending to approx 2.5 acres in total. Feature reception hall, sitting room, lounge, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, master bedroom with en suite shower room, two further bedrooms, family bathroom. Large double garage, oil CH, PVC DG to the majority of windows. It occupies a convenient location on the outskirts of the village within walking distance of local amenities. EPC Band: E. PART EXCHANGE CONSIDERED

Guide Price: £365,000 2962

Edgerley, Oswestry

A charming, Grade II Listed detached period cottage set in extensive gardens and grounds of approx 0.6 acre, with self contained annexe/garage block suitable for a number of uses (subject to usual PP) including work from home, holiday let, ancillary accommodation. Hall, sitting room, dining room, family/games room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, WC, master bedroom with en-suite bathroom, two further bedrooms, family bathroom. Annexe comprises; kitchen, downstairs bathroom, garage/store, upstairs living area. Wood framed DG, ample parking, summerhouse, greenhouse, stores, polytunnel, good size paved areas for outside dining. EPC Band: E

Guide Price: £359,950 2717

Haughton, Llandrinio

A four bedroom detached property offering good sized accommodation, having oil CH and pleasant rural outlooks to the rear. Entrance hall, sitting room with inglenook fireplace, dining room with inglenook fireplace, study, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, downstairs cloakroom, three good sized double bedrooms and one large single bedroom, and family bathroom. Situated with adjoining paddock extending to approximately 3.75 acres or thereabouts. EPC Band: E

Guide Price: £350,000 1962

Bettisfield, Nr Whitchurch

An extremely rare opportunity to acquire a former vicarage requiring modernisation and upgrading, offering huge potential to provide a beautiful and substantial family home. Presently comprising; reception hall, sitting room, dining room, family room, breakfast room, kitchen/utility room, large walk-in pantry, cloakroom, six bedrooms, bathroom with separate WC on the first floor, and second floor attic room. Range of outbuildings including coach house incorporating coach bay, stable, open bay and pigsty with further range of ancillary buildings including store/outside WC, the whole is set in 2/3 of an acre or thereabouts. EPC Band: G

Guide Price: Offers over £350,000 3127

Meifod, Powys

An extremely spacious detached house, with oil CH, uPVC DG, large double garaging, ample parking, gardens with balcony style patio enjoying wonderful elevated views. Hallway, large living room, kitchen/dining room, uPVC conservatory, three good size bedrooms, bathroom. On the lower level is a utility room, shower room with WC, three other rooms which currently comprise; bedroom, study and store room but this level could be converted subject to necessary consents into separate annexe. EPC Band: D

Guide Price: £275,000 3003

Crickheath, Oswestry

A charming detached property, built at the same time as the Montgomery Canal, with spacious well maintained accommodation offering original cottage features. It occupies tranquil location and rural aspect make this an ideal rural retreat. There is a useful garden store, garage and greenhouses, together with a summerhouse, the garden is mainly laid to lawn intersected with mature shrubs and trees. hall, sitting room, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, three nedrooms, en-suite shower room, family bathroom. EPC Band: F. For further details contact 01691 655334.

Guide Price: £295,000

Hollinwood, Whixall

A superb Grade II Listed, extremely spacious, semi-detached farmhouse style character property believed to date back over 350 years, and having a wealth of exposed wall and ceiling timbers throughout. Oil fired CH, lovely front garden with views over open countryside. Entrance hall, magnificent living room, superb kitchen/dining room, utility room, downstairs WC, rear hall with original oak staircase and timbers ascending to the first floor, two double bedrooms, bathroom, and shower room, further staircase leading to second floor and bedroom 3. EPC Band: D

Guide Price: £245,000 3138

Maesbury, Oswestry

A character public house with a friendly family atmosphere and a wealth of character features. Two large lounge bar areas, games room (previously used as a dining area), central bar area, equipped kitchen and associated store rooms, spacious private accommodation. Large outdoor area with ample parking for around 20 cars, paddock which could be utilised as a beer garden or camping area. Fronting onto Maesbury Road, less than a mile off the A483 which is a busy thoroughfare, it is free of tie and provides a rare opportunity to purchase a freehold popular public house with scope to expand the business.
EPC Band: E. For further details contact 01691 655334.

Guide Price: £247,500

Pant, Shropshire

A delightfully located detached bungalow, having oil CH, uPVC DG, garage and large gardens enjoying delightful rooftop views to the rear towards Rodneys Pillar. It occupies a very pleasant position on the fringe of the village, which is easily accessible to Oswestry, Welshpool and Shrewsbury. Recessed entrance, reception hall, large living room/dining room, very large conservatory, fitted kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom. The property also enjoys access via an adjacent bridle path to a nature reserve. EPC Band: E

Guide Price: £185,000 3082

Brooklyn Road, Pant

An attractive, deceptively spacious, semi-detached bungalow having oil fired CH, DG, large garage and delightful gardens to front and rear. It occupies a very pleasant and convenient cul-de-sac position close to the centre of Pant, within walking distance of a range of local amenities and being about 15 miles from Shrewsbury, and 6 miles from Oswestry. Porch, hall, living room, dining room/bedroom 2, two further bedrooms, conservatory and newly fitted bathroom. EPC Band: D

Guide Price: £175,000 3131

Maes-y-Granllyn, Guilsfield

A spacious detached family house, having oil CH, wood burner, sealed unit DG, garage, parking and gardens. It occupies a pleasant cul-de-sac position in the village, having a comprehensive range of local amenities and easily accessible to Welshpool town. Entrance hall, inner hallway, cloakroom/WC, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, covered side lobby/utility area, landing, three bedrooms, bathroom. NB the garage is currently split into storage facility and further office/store room. EPC Band: D

Guide Price: £165,000 3134

Queens Road, Oswestry

A well presented ground floor apartment, being part of a small select development of just 10 apartments, created from the conversion of the old Queens Park Girls School. Entrance hall, sitting room/dining room, well fitted kitchen, two double bedrooms, en-suite shower room, and separate bathroom. The property gas CH, two private parking spaces, and is located in one of Oswestry's most sought after areas being within easy walking distance of both the town centre and local amenities. EPC Band: C

Guide Price: £155,000 3139

Parc Caradog, Trewern

A well-maintained and presented, modern semi-detached property with hall, cloakroom, sitting room, kitchen/diner, three good sized bedrooms, family bathroom with separate shower cubicle. Oil fired CH, wood framed DG, two private car parking spaces situated adjacent to the rear. It property offers an affordable family home and may also be of interest to investment buyers. EPC Band: C

Guide Price: £124,950 3110

Gobowen, Oswestry

A spacious leasehold three bedroom first floor flat having gas CH, partial uPVC DG, garden with shed and two official parking spaces.The property occupies a convenient position in the centre of Gobowen, having a range of amenities within short distance, It is accessible to the railway station and Oswestry and within short driving distance of Shrewsbury and Wrexham. Ground floor entrance hall with stairs to large first floor landing, delightful living room, modern well equipped kitchen/breakfast room, good size bathroom with WC and three bedrooms. EPC Band: E

Guide Price: £115,000 3077

Four Crosses, Llanymynech

An end of terrace mature cottage, requiring some modernisation and upgrading, with sitting room, kitchen, downstairs shower room and bedroom. The property has parking for up to four cars with small enclosed gardens to the rear. The property occupies a central position in the village, close to a range of local amenities and conveniently located for travel to Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Welshpool. EPC Band: G

Guide Price: £65,000 2769

01691 655334
20 Salop Road
Oswestry SY11 2NU

01743 343343
44 High Street
Shrewsbury SY1 1ST

01938 554499
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RICS

Hindford Whittington £495,000

NEW

- An early nineteenth century Grade II Listed Detached Country residence together with Gardens and grounds of about 3/4 acres.
- The approach is over a sweeping driveway with a large gravelled parking and manoeuvring area to the side of the property. This property offers substantial period accommodation and has the potential to further create a most impressive family home.
- Entrance Hall, Drawing Room, Cloakroom, Utility Room, Kitchen, Dining Room, 6 Bedrooms. 2 Bathrooms, Cellar and Large outbuilding (former dairy). EPC Rating G

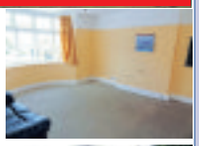
Weston Nr Oswestry £425,000

NEW - NO CHAIN

- A rare opportunity to purchase a Grade II Listed Mill which has been sympathetically converted to create a spacious home. The property boasts excellent views over its own Mill Pond and the countryside beyond
- Through careful design and craftsmanship the current owners have created spacious and modern living accommodation which preserves the character of this iconic building and retains a host of original features including a working water wheel and some of the original workings
- Outside the property has picturesque gardens set around the extensive Mill Pond which provides an idyllic backdrop for this stunning property

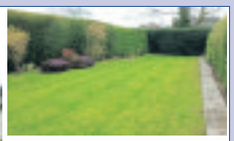
Whittington Road Gobowen £179,995

NEW - NO CHAIN



- A spacious Detached Family Property set in large gardens situated on the edge of the popular village of Gobowen within walking distance of amenities and the train station
- The property benefits from a host of original features throughout together with generous size accommodation
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Dining Rm, Kitchen, Utility and Bathroom together with 3 Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom on the first floor
- Outside the property has large gardens to front & rear, a large concrete driveway which provides ample off-road parking & access to the garage. EPC

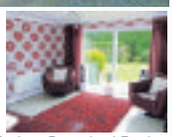
NEW - NO CHAIN



Llanforda Rise Oswestry £229,950

- A most spacious and comfortably appointed Detached Dormer Bungalow situated within a premier residential area within the town and convenient to all facilities
- Ent Porch, Wide Entrance Hall, Large Sitting Rm, Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, 2 Ground Floor Bedrooms or one bedroom and a Dining rm
- Box Room, 2 Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom & Separate WC
- Delightful lawned gardens to fore & rear, parking for several vehicles together with a garage. D/G, Oil C/H. EPC Rating E

Arddleen Nr Welshpool £354,995



- A most comfortably appointed and spacious Modern Detached Residence only twelve years old, built to very high standards
- Storm Porch, Large Reception Hall, Cloaks, Study. Spacious Lounge, Sitting Rm, Dining Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, First Floor Landing
- Master Bedroom & Guest Bedroom (both en-suite), Two Further Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom
- LPG gas central heating, high security double glazing, intruder alarm, double garage & ample parking on a sweeping graveled driveway. EPC Rating D

NEW

Old Mapsis Way Morda £167,950

- A spacious and comfortably appointed Detached Bungalow with views over open fields to the rear situated on a small residential development on the edge of the popular village of Morda.
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Conservatory, Two Spacious Bedrooms, Shower Room and Integral Garage
- The property also has a good size rear garden whilst to the front of the property is a tarmac driveway with ample parking for two cars. uPVC Double Glazing and Gas C/H. EPC Rating D

NEW - NO CHAN

Lutton Close Oswestry £225,000

- A most delightful and well presented four bedroomed Mid-Terrace property that was constructed to high standards in 2007
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, a Large Sitting/Dining Room, a feature Kitchen with integrated appliances and granite working surfaces, Study
- Four Excellent Bedrooms, En-Suite, Shower Room and Family Bathroom
- Quality fitments and fittings throughout and recently decorated through, security system
- Double glazing, Gas C/H, integral garage, parking to fore for several vehicles. EPC Rating C

LARGE GARDEN - NO CHAIN

Ball Lane Maesbury £229,500

- A most delightful Detached Country Cottage set adjacent to open countryside in a picturesque location
- Sitting Room, Dining Room, New Kitchen/Breakfast Room. Three Bedrooms, New Bathroom Suite
- LP Gas C/H. Double Glazing, Off road parking, Fully enclosed good size rear gardens
- The cottage has undergone electrical rewiring, modern LP Gas C/H system is installed. EPC Rating F

Oerley Way Oswestry £235,000

- A spacious Detached House situated within a quality location on a large plot
- Entrance Hall, Cloaks, Sitting Room/Dining Room, Large Conservatory
- Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Utility, Wide Landing leading to Four Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom. Garage, Double Glazing, Gas C/H. EPC Rating F
- A wide driveway with ornamental lawn and a secluded rear garden.

School Lane St Martins £239,995

- A spacious Detache House situated within a private driveway
- Ent Hall, Cloakroom, a Large Sitting/Dining Room, Conservatory
- Snug, Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Five Bedrooms, Family Bathrm, En-Suite
- Oil C/H, D/G, single garage, parking for several vehicles
- A fully enclosed lawned rear garden with patio
- EPC Rating D

NO CHAIN

Coed-Y-Go Oswestry £250,000

- A most delightfully position Detached Residential Bungalow set within large gardens and grounds just on the edge of Morda towards Coed-y-Go being only one mile from Oswestry.
- The generous property includes which requires some modernisation, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Sun Room, Kitchen, Rear Lobby/Utility together with Three Bedrooms and Shower Room.
- Oil fired Central Heating, garage, a Triple Loose Box with adjoining Garage, Small Paddock. Views over open fields to the rear. EPC Rating F

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deaths

DAVIES

Martin

Peacefully at home on March 20, 2013, aged 65 years.

Of Oswestry.

Much loved Husband of Jo, Stepfather to Anna, Grandfather to Sara and Samuel, Brother of Margaret, Brother-in-law of David and Uncle of Sarah and Louise.

A private Family Cremation will be followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at St Oswald's Parish Church, Oswestry on Monday, April 8, at 12 noon.

Family flowers only, donations if desired to Oswestry District Nurses Fund and St Oswald's Parish Church.

All inquiries to

DAVID DAVIES & SONS

1 Upper Church Street

Oswestry

Telephone 01691 653116.

HAYWARD

George Philip

(Phil)

Passed away peacefully on March 21, 2013, aged 72 years. Husband of Cherrill, loving Dad of Julie and Liz, Father-in-law of Chris and Mark, devoted Grandad of Lucy, Charlotte and Richard and Brother to Margaret, Marj, Ken and the late Tony.

A private Family Cremation Service will be followed by a Service of Thanksgiving at St Martins Parish Church on Tuesday, April 9, at 12 noon.

Family flowers only, donations, if desired, to Hope House Children's Respite Hospice.

All inquiries to

DAVID DAVIES & SONS

1 Upper Church Street

Oswestry

Telephone 01691 653116.

SHROPSHIRE STAR

Family Announcements

To place your announcement you can either call 01952 244244, or fax on 01902 713146 or email karen.richards@shropshirestar.co.uk

If by fax or email, please remember to include an address and contact number.

HIGGS

Doris

Of Hazledine Court, Shrewsbury. Peacefully on March 28, 2013, at Hampden Hall Nursing Home, Aylesbury, aged 85 years.

Beloved Mother of Elizabeth and the late Christopher, Granny of Alexander and Victoria.

Service at Shrewsbury Crematorium, on Tuesday, April 9, 2013, at 10.15am.

Donations if wished to The Stroke Association for which purpose a collection box will be provided at the Crematorium.

Inquiries please to

CLIVE PUGH
Funeral Director
95, Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6BD
Telephone: 01743 244644

Acknowledgements

Haughton
near Much Wenlock
TIMMINS
Fanny
(Fan / Phipp)

Mr and Mrs David Timmins and the Family of the late Mrs Fanny Timmins wish to express their sincere thanks to all Relatives, Friends and Neighbours, for the cards, letters and other kind messages of sympathy, love and support received at this sad time, for your attendance at the Funeral Service and for your donations to The Motor Neurone Society, totalling £155.04 to date.

Special thanks to her Doctors and to the Staff at Claverley Medical Practice for your efforts on Mum's behalf throughout her illness, to all at Bradeney House Care Home, at Worfield, for your care and kindness to her throughout her stay with you, to the Bearers for completing your duties with such dignity, to Glynn, Richard and Heidi for your very personal contributions to the Service, to Ebenezers Florists for the beautiful floral tributes, to all at Goodyears Pavilion, for your warm hospitality and for looking after everyone so well afterwards and to the Reverend Carl Rudd, for leading us in such a comforting Service.

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(T&C's below)

ABBY is a passionate sexy girl seeking some fun times. **Tel: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 373603**

TINA fun loving single mum who enjoys most things in life, seeking happy guy with GSOH for meals in, dates out, possible romance and adult companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403567** ✉

AMY 19yr old single female looking for much older naughty male for discreet fun times only. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403381** ✉

SHARON medium built lovely, 33yrs, pale complexion, nice eyes, feminine, outgoing, confident, enjoys varied interests, WLTM all round nice guy for adult relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403345** ✉

CAROL South African lonely heart 37yrs, looking for fun with mature gent 50plus, likes dining in/out, discretion assured/appreciated. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403337** ✉

SALLY slim attractive feisty redhead, intelligent, easygoing, WLTM similar male for friendship and more, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 393469** ✉

I'M Julie 36yrs old, attractive, fit, blonde, solvent with OHAC seeking man to spoil and enjoy good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 395051**

BERNIE Beautiful black lady with no ties seeks her King, curvy, intelligent, feminine and all you will ever need, what are you waiting for? Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402991** ✉

ALISON 37 animal loving female who enjoys a quiet life, cooking, seeks older respectful male 42-60yrs to enjoy meals out and cosy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402793** ✉

APRIL big bubbly busty 21yr old female who enjoys nights in/out, music, WLTM caring, loving older male, 30-45yrs. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402789** ✉

SHROPSHIRE female 40, seeks special local male to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 355959**

GAIL 52, blonde hair, 5ft 2ins, likes nights out, seeks N/S male, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402041**

MID 80's female, young in mind, seeks male for dancing, days out, company and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401157**

SARA young fun and sick of being single, trendy, well presented, very attractive, loves good food/wine, keeping fit, fast cars, looking to fall in love. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401543**

I'M Carol 39, slim, blonde with legs 11, passionate by nature, loves tlc and looking for similar solvent male for fun times and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401467**

62YR old female, widowed, small, slim, attractive, kind, outgoing, likes meals out, dancing, holidays, nights in, seeking professional gent. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 394106** ✉

JANINE petite cute female who loves meals in/out, romantic strolls, WLTM interesting appreciative, independent man for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 400803**

CAROL, discreet, married, 47yrs seeks man for fun times. **Tel: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 400499**

JULIE 30's female looking for some much needed tlc with similar laidback male. Likes nights in/out, socialising, romance etc, call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 400487**

KATHY 38yrs, knows what she wants out of life, wltm similar genuine male to wine/dine enjoy travel, share ambitions and hopefully fall in love with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 400793**

CHANTELLE 40yr old slim sensual confident female who loves to party, seeking older male for fun dates without complications. Any age/race. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 400465**

JACKIE lonely discreet 30's female with many interests, WLTM kind professional male to share nice times with. Status/age/looking unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 400451**

HI I am Sara 21, a petite single mum, sporty, caring and looking for reliable, well groomed male 30-40yrs for adult 1-2-1. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402771** ✉

LIZ 42, black, divorced, seeking male, 44-54 for kind, sincere, honest, open relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 400949**

CAROL 37 attractive slim blonde, curves in all the right places, nice personality, good company, looking for caring fun man for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 400263**

CLARE 37 attractive slim with long dark hair and big brown eyes, WLTM genuine male who is honest, sincere and won't waste my time or break my heart. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 400199**

MADELINE 5ft black, seeks white/black male 26-41 with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 375789**

LOUISE 35, loves meals out, wltm tallish, considerate mature male who is not frightened to express themselves and enjoy life. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 395727**

MICHELLE attractive 30's female, blonde, leggy and very much single, seeking quality company, hopefully more with nice romantic male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 395717**

ATTRACTIVE lady, GSOH, slim, dark hair, 50's, likes walks, films, art, meals out, seeks male with GSOH and similar interests for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 399245** ✉

SAM pretty petite, fit, sensual brunette, divorced with two children, looking for genuine, tactile guy who wants to meet someone special like me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 398763**

JEANETTE big brown eyed busty size 10, loves to keep in shape and look good, WLTM sincere man to make my life complete, call if you're him. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 398757**

LUCY beautiful big bottomed black female, very tactile, sensual and seeks mature honest white male for loving fun times. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 397389**

43YR old female, bubbly, down to earth, trustworthy, honest, caring, seeks male, 45 plus. West Midlands. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402945** ✉

ALISON slim pretty lonely divorcee looking for caring supportive man who enjoys life and is looking to share it with me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402255** ✉

FIRST timer! Annette, passionate, loves cooking, life in general, rock music, WLTM mature male for friendship, togetherness, tlc, hopefully ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401851** ✉

JEANETTE 35, blonde blue eyed attractive active nurse who really cares about people, WLTM someone genuine and honest to fall in love with. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402655** ✉

LISA 30's tall slim beauty looking for discreet dining partner to romance, pamper and appreciate me in return for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402645** ✉

ATTRACTIVE curvy Jamaican female 37 who loves to party, cook/bake and have fun, looking for no strings adult companionship only with white male, any age. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 393423** ✉

MAXINE lonely heart, fun good looking single mum with GSOH seeks gentle considerate male to try and get to know better, dads welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 393329** ✉

MARIA French female looking for mutually convenient companionship, very friendly, very discreet and very interested in meeting with you! **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 397451** ✉

MONICA 35, very attractive, gorgeous curvy figure, WLTM nice male who wants to get to know a genuine black beauty to wine, dine, romance hopefully leading to more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401837**

SINGLE MEN

Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT207 To : 65125. (T&C's below).

45YR old British Asian male, 5ft 9ins, slim-medium build, kind, caring, GSOH, likes romantic meals, nights in, films, music, walks, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403631** ✉

GARY kind, caring, seeks special lady, any age for fun times and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403585** ✉

MIKE 45, bored, seeks female, any age for adult fun and good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403461** ✉

MATTY blue eyes, dark hair, 5ft 7ins, slim, likes meals out, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403561**

WHY be alone? Single mature, discreet gent, seeks lady, late 70-80's for occasional fun and chats. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403543**

SMALL holder 40's, single, 6ft 2ins, hardworking, sincere, seeks female for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403517** ✉

STEVE 63, tall, fit, young outlook, likes travel, socialising, holidays, N/S, seeks local lady, 55-60 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402931**

OPEN-MINDED blue eyed, dark haired loving male, seeks genuine, fun loving female for nights in/out and weekends away. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402313**

SINGLE trustworthy, genuine gent, WLTM elderly lady, 70 plus for occasional adult fun and chats. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402323**

GENUINE guy, 40, 5ft 10ins, medium build, seeks genuine lady for loving, caring, committed relationship. Coventry. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402003** ✉

MALE seeking female, 20-40 for relationship and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 394308** ✉

55YRS young male, 5ft 6ins, slim, young outlook, many interests, seeks lady to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401807** ✉

MALE 40, 6ft 2ins, blond, fit, seeks female for friendship, possible relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401899** ✉

TIGER Woods lookalike, seeking curvy, scrumptious female for fun and frolics. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401737** ✉

STEVE 60, likes sports, meals out, seeks female with view to permanent relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401695**

VINCE 52, caring, seeking female for fun and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401683** ✉

RICHARD 39, honest, caring, likes cosy nights in/out, seeks lady, 35-40 for good times in and out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401145** ✉

IAN 6ft, likes meals out, weekends away, seeks female, Midlands. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 394134**

IAN tall, medium build, brown hair, blue eyes, caring, genuine, loving, tender, happy go lucky, likes music, theatre, meals out, romantic nights in, seeks similar female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401065** ✉

DAVE happy go lucky, sociable, seeks attractive young lady, 35-40 to pamper and cook for. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401043** ✉

40YR old Asian male, GSOH, likes meals out, country walks, looking for English lady with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401609** ✉

61YR old male, seeking daytime meets with female for adult fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401667** ✉

39YR old young looking male, blue eyes, 5ft 11ins, clean, seeking nice, attractive female, 21-45. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 394260** ✉

ATTRACTIVE tall, Indian professional male, GSOH, easygoing, likes sports, socialising, good company, seeks female with GSOH who enjoys life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401385**

MALE 50, genuine, honest, many interests, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 394232**

GAY SINGLES

IF YOU'RE LOOKING to meet or chat to other men, look no further. TXT: **GAY247** to **65125**

www.localgaydate.co.uk

GAY male, slim, 5ft 5ins, 49, OHAC, seeks slim guy 25-45 for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 402843** ✉

MARK 36, seeking fun, outgoing male for possible relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401723**

STEVE 54 bi, non-scene, seeking guy of similar age or older for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401465** ✉

OLDER male, outgoing, sporty, seeking younger man for fun and friendship, slim-medium build, active, hairy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401225**

BI male, divorced, young, fit 50, own home/business, seeks male, 18-45 for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 391849** ✉

27YR old female, seeking no strings fun with other female, any age/nationality. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 393530** ✉

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Sparkling bonus for charities in area

A FESTIVE fundraiser added a bit of extra sparkle to the funds of several Oswestry-based good causes.

Thousands of pounds was raised by Oswestry Rotary Club's Tree of Light appeal during Christmas.

The appeal saw the Rotary install a Christmas Tree outside Sainsbury's and people gave a donation to leave a message for a loved one on it.

Cheques for £500 went to Hope House Children's Hospice, the Air Ambulance service, Cricket Federation for People with Disabilities and North Shropshire Special Olympics.

And cheques for £250 went Oswestry Stroke Club, Shropshire Housing Alliance Furniture Store, Severn Hospice and Oswestry Young Carers.

There were awards of £100 to the Interact Clubs at Oswestry School and The Marches School and other awards will to go Rotary good causes at a later date.

Representatives of the good causes which received the cash said they were delighted.

Hope House fund-raising manager, Vanessa Thomas, said: "Rotary Clubs are amongst our valued regular donors whose contribution to our funds has never been as important as in today's very difficult environment for charities like ours."

Business group networks at newly-built care home

BUSINESS bosses have staged their latest get-together at Shropshire's newest care home.

Shropshire Chamber of Commerce, which operates breakfast network clubs and express networking across in Telford, Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Ludlow, chose the recently completed New Fairholme care home, in Oswestry, for a networking event last Thursday.

The £6.9 million building is a replacement for the Fairholme in Morda Road, Oswestry, which has become too small to meet increasing demand for care places. Residents and staff will transfer to the new 88-bed facility, run by Coverage Care, from next week.

by Iain St John

At the networking event, Coverage Care chief executive David Coull explained that the new home offered residential care, nursing care for those with more complex needs and will have provision for a number of daytime care services..

Ruth Othen, marketing consultant for Coverage Care, said: "We had 28 businesses attend the networking event at New Fairholme.

"The businesses were given a tour of the home and they all seemed very impressed by what they saw. Everybody who has visited has been amazed at the quality of the home and the services it will provide."

Coverage Care operates 16 care centres in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin, all on a not for profit basis. It employs about 1,000 staff and provides a range of care services for more than 1,600 mainly older people.

Construction of the new Oswestry home was carried out by Castlemead Group Wrexham in autumn 2011.

The old Fairholme has been returned to Shropshire Council and will be developed into a new sixth form centre for the adjacent Marches Secondary School.

New Fairholme has 88 ensuite rooms in two wings, extensive communal and dining areas and private gardens. Initially, about 50 new jobs have been created for nurses, care and support staff.

The manager of New Fairholme is Denise Morris.

From left, Brian Evans, from Lanyon Bowdler, Neil Bevan, from Hunter Bevan, and Maria Jones, from the Midlands Air Ambulance. *Picture: Peter Flemmich.*

Eisteddfod is now in profit

THE world-famous Llangollen International music festival has reported a profit for the first time in five years.

The week-long Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod has reported being £22,668 in the black after a number of difficult years.

In 2011 the Eisteddfod made a loss of £199,000.

Last year's July event, which starred Alfie Boe, attracted 36,000 people.

Eisteddfod treasurer Selwyn Evans who said: "This is very encouraging after a number of difficult years and the fact that it was achieved against the odds is also significant.

"Not only did we manage it in the worst economic downturn in our 67-year history we also did it in a very wet week in the middle of the wettest summer on record.

"That did affect daytime ground admissions in particular but we managed to more than maintain our concert attendance figures."

Workshop will boost confidence in children

SHY youngsters wanting to gain a little self confidence are invited to take part in an Easter workshop.

Oswestry Library, in Arthur Street, will be hosting a free morning course to help boost self-confidence and improve public speaking skills on April 11 from 9.15am until 1pm.

The workshop has been organised by local businesswoman Heather Noble, of Salt Solutions.

She said the event is being aimed at children aged nine to 14 years old.

It will see them being asked to recite some modern fiction and then given the opportunity to compose a 'mini speech' which they will deliver to the rest of the group.

Mrs Noble said: "I am very excited to be working with Oswestry Library and looking forward to working with some of our younger community members.

"This fun and energetic session will not only be educational but can give those children who don't have public speaking as part of their school curriculum an insight into how important communication skills play in their future success."

Numbers will be limited to maximise benefit for all attendees.

To book a place call the library on (01691) 677388.

Funding boost for football players

YOUNG footballers in Ellesmere have been handed a huge boost after receiving more than £1,000 in sponsorship money.

Tina Evans, fundraiser for the Ellesmere Rangers Juniors Football Club, said the money donated by a range of local businesses and sponsors had helped pay for new kit and other equipment.

So far she has collected £1,200.

She said: "The club appreciate the support they have been given by Ellesmere's local businesses supporting their youth teams.

Invaluable

"As a youth league we collect funding by our volunteers approaching various organisations and local companies to provide all the equipment, courses and kits that is invaluable to supporting the youth section in this way.

"Many children would otherwise not be able to afford to enjoy this game should this aspect not exist."

The club play at the Beech Grove Playing Fields, for more information visit **www.pitchero.com/clubs/ellesmererangers**

Speeding survey being sent to the police commissioner

A SURVEY which highlights concerns about people speeding in rural areas will be sent to the Shropshire Police Commissioner.

Colin Case, from Ruyton-XI-Towns, created the short survey online last month to collect opinions about speed limits, speeding and enforcements.

He said about 50 people took part and the results highlighted that they were concerned that some 20 mile per hour zones may not be enforced by the police.

It also revealed that so far show more than 73 per cent of answers showed people thought speeding was most common in 20 or 30mph zones, more than 96 per cent thought speed was most dangerous in 20 or 30mph zones and the rest cited 40mph zones were the most dangerous. None selected 60 or 70mph zones as being the most dangerous zones to speed in.

by Graham Breeze

The survey also revealed that 52 per cent thought speed limits were most enforced in 60 or 70mph zones, including motorways but none had observed speed limits being enforced in 20mph zones.

Mr Case said: "More than 92 per cent wanted the area where they live to be either 30mph or 20mph, with about one third of these preferring 20mph."

He plans to send his findings to the Shropshire Police Commissioner Bill Longmore.

He said: "So far nearly 50 people have completed the survey and more responses are expected as the Three Parishes Newsletter is distributed in Ruyton-XI -Towns and the Baschurch Newsletter is published

"I will continue to collect results for the next few weeks and then, depending on results, write to the Police Commissioner to ask for his response. It might turn out to be a surprise for him."

Mr Case started the survey at the end of February and it has run for about three weeks. A majority of those taking part in the questionnaire were from Ruyton-XI-Towns and Baschurch.

To take part in the survey visit **http://bit.ly/15gNnSN**

Ex-teacher in new business

A WOMAN who gave up teaching to look after her children 10 years ago has turned her passion for art into a new business.

Louise Freeman, of Ellesmere, has been creating art on her kitchen table for the past two years. But on Saturday she opened the Quirky Art Ceramics Studio Gallery in Scotland Street in the town.

More than 100 people were at the launch to see her drawings and sculptures, including mayor of the town Alan Clarke who cut the red ribbon.

She also hopes to launch community night classes for portrait drawing and sculpture in the coming months.

The mother-of-two said she has had a brilliant response so far.

She said: "There is a sculpting desk and people have been watching through the window, they love it. It links the process with the finished product and shows people the journey. People have been tapping the door trying to get in."

Grace meets her book hero

Grace Aldwinckle, of The Marches School, with some of Michael Morpurgo's books.

GRACE Aldwinckle, a Year 8 student at The Marches School, won herself a once in a lifetime opportunity to meet Michael Morpurgo, the former Children's Laureate and award-winning author of children's books including War Horse and Private Peaceful. The opportunity came as part of the Oswestry Literary Festival – 'The Festival of the Word'.

As festival partners, the school library manager ran a 'Michael Morpurgo' themed quiz to provide students, with the opportunity to attend this already sold-out event.

And by coming top in the quiz Grace secured herself three tickets to watch his outstanding performance in Oswestry.

Sarah Richards, library manager at the school said: "Grace achieved a highly impressive 20/20."

Grace said: "It was so great to meet him. He was interesting and funny and portrayed his books really well."

Heritage days are blueprint for others

HERITAGE Open Days in Oswestry have become so popular organisers are now advising other towns on how to use the scheme to attract more visitors.

Those behind the four-day series of events in September say that it has put the area on the tourism map, bringing money into the economy and helping local people enjoy the area in which they live.

At least 2,000 people attended Heritage Open Day events in Oswestry and the surrounding villages last year.

One of those behind the venture, Mark Hignett, from the Oswestry Heritage Forum, said he had now been asked to speak to the Shrewsbury group.

"We are already working closing with Whitchurch volunteers to help them get the most from the project. People across the region have seen how things have snowballed in Oswestry and would like to have the success we have had. We are the envy of many areas."

"Heritage Open Days celebrate England's fantastic architecture and culture by offering free access to properties usually closed to the public or which charge."

He said Oswestry had developed the venture with special events including storytelling, re-enactment camps, and craft workshops.

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Rotary aid is on its way for homeless

PEOPLE left homeless by a typhoon that lashed South Korea are being helped by aid sent from the Oswestry area.

Special shelter boxes paid for by the Borderland Rotary club, are on their way to the People's Democratic Republic of Korea.

Typhoon Sanba ripped along the coast of South Korea on Tuesday with high winds and heavy rain leaving a trail of devastation and making scores of people homeless.

ShelterBox, the international organisation that sends aid, responded immediately sending their boxes to the disaster area. Each box contains a large tent and other supplies including a water filtration system.

Rotarian Neil Ruby, said funding for two of the boxes had been donated by the Borderland club.

Laura Jepson of the ShelterBox Response team, has been in touch to tell us that two of the ShelterBoxes sponsored by the club have been deployed to the People's Democratic Republic of Korea.

Mr Ruby said: "If any group of people would like to know more or would like to make a donation to sponsor our next box then please contact The Borderland club. The club meets every Wednesday at the Sweeney Hall Hotel at 7.30pm."

A helping hand during hard times from Qube's Soraya

SORAYA Bellis experienced first-hand the recession of the 1980s and is now helping people in north Shropshire who have been caught in the current economic struggles.

The 50-year-old from Oswestry is a Youth Volunteering Outreach Officer at Qube, based in Oswald Road, helping give people opportunities to boost their CVs by offering volunteering placements around the county.

Soraya says having faced the 1980s recession after graduating from university means she finds it even more rewarding to have a job where can help others.

The mother of three, who was born in South London, left home to study film and television at Manchester Polytechnic, now The Manchester Metropolitan University.

"I wanted to direct my own drama," she said. "I was very attracted to theatre and worked with an amateur dramatic group.

"When I left the polytechnic I walked into the recession of the 80s and there were no jobs in film and television.

"Some years later I ended up working at Manchester University as they have their own TV studio. I was producer and director."

Soraya worked creating educational learning programmes and distance learning programmes. This was more in line with what she had once dreamed of doing.

In 1989 she met her husband and they started a family.

Spending time at home made her realised that she wanted to start working as a counsellor. She said she was fascinated by people and psychology and was a good listener so felt counselling was the way forward. After carrying out a two-day taster course she knew it was the right job for her.

Once qualified in 1999 she set up a private practice in Oswestry which she still runs today alongside her role as one of the Qube's Volunteer Outreach Officers.

In 2000 she moved to Oswestry with her family and met a woman who worked for a charity called Home-Start, which helps families with crisis. Soraya soon became a volunteer and when the charity was awarded funding she became a family support worker. Five years later she became a co-ordinator with her own team of volunteers.

She left Home-Start last year to concentrate on her counselling practice.

Her new role sees her working with disadvantaged people aged between 16 and 25 years old to help find them volunteering roles in the county.

"Volunteering can be hugely rewarding," she said. "It gives confidence, social skills and helps them when they are looking for work. I find organisations willing to take them on and set them up.

"It is then my job to then keep in touch with them, offer support and check their CVs are up to date."

This June Qube will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of its volunteer bureau.

For more information visit **www.qube-oca.org.uk** or email **info@qube-oca.org.uk** or call (01691) 656882.

Qube's Youth Volunteering Outreach Officer Soraya Bellis.

Town pub hosting a beer festival

ALE lovers will be encouraged to try something different during April when an Oswestry pub runs a 19-day international beer festival.

A range of real ales from the UK and overseas will be available at Wetherspoon's Wilfred Owen pub in Willow Street during the festival which runs until April 21.

The overseas beers on offer at The Wilfred Owen have been sourced from brewers in New Zealand, Greece, Russia, Canada, USA, Netherlands and Czech Republic.

The overseas beers on sale include Pacific Pearl from the Good George Brewery, New Zealand, Red Racer from Central City Brewing Company in Canada, Ionian Coffee Porter from the Corfu Brewing Company in Greece and Twilight from Deshutes Brewery in the USA.

The UK beers include Willy Nilly from Brains, Pursuit of Hoppyness from Rudgate and Cereal Thriller from Banks's.

Hospice winners

ALL the winners in the Hope House Children's Hospice monthly draw were from north Wales. The winner of the £1,000 first prize was from Conwy while smaller prizes went to Llandudno Junction, Bodelwyddan, Old Colwyn and Rhyl.

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Students celebrate string of successes

STUDENTS in north Shropshire have been celebrating success in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

The Ellesmere College students achieved 17 bronze awards, two silver and one gold.

They received prizes from the mayor and mayoress of Ellesmere, Alan and Ruth Clarke, at a celebration event.

Tom Gareh, Duke of Edinburgh co-ordinator at Ellesmere College, said: "The young people honoured at this year's ceremony should all be very proud of their achievements.

"They have worked incredibly hard and have shown real determination.

"Not only that but they have learned a lot about themselves along the way.

"It takes a significant amount of effort and commitment to achieve an award, whether at bronze, silver or gold level."

The award is open to young people aged between 14 and 25 years and offers a wide range of activities and community participation.

Gold participants also have to complete a residential element to successfully complete their award.

Mark McBrien, 17, achieved the gold award. The sixth form student said: "Achieving my gold award is just fantastic. I really enjoyed all the activities."

Six weeks to master the sax

by Toby Neal

LAST week we featured the memories of 83-year-old John Pugh of Trefonen, who told how he was invited to join the George Riley Band – one of Shropshire's premier dance bands for many years – as a teenage trumpeter.

Continuing his reminiscences, he introduces us to the band members – and tells how he had to learn unfamiliar instruments in a hurry.

'George Riley said to me after I had been playing in the band for a while, "I can find a trumpet player, but can't find a saxophone player. Could you transfer to saxophone?"

I had never played a saxophone in my life.

He said: "We are playing at a police ball in six weeks' time. Could you play a saxophone and clarinet in six weeks' time?" So I transferred to saxophone and clarinet. I did learn in time, but I don't know how well I played.

They are not similar at all. For nearly 50 years I conducted Porthywaen silver band, and I'm very used to brass instruments. I was not used to saxophone and clarinets.

We were at the Garrison Theatre in Oswestry where hundreds used to dance on a night because it was by the army camp. We played there every Saturday. We played every Wednesday at St Mary's Hall in Wrexham. He also had another band, which we regarded as the second band, at the Victoria Rooms in Oswestry. He had a small group of about eight players at the Naafi in Middleton Road in Oswestry about the same sort of time, the 1950s and 1960s.

On my back of my picture of the band it says "George Riley and his band, taken July 1947."

On the back row are, firstly myself, John Pugh; Jack Jones, of School Lane, Trefonen; Doug Lloyd, of Llanyblodwel; with glasses is the drummer, Eddie Blackwell, from Oswestry; on string bass is Tommy Hunter, who was with the Wrexham Leader, a journalist I think, and I think he lived in Wrexham; then on the right is the pianist, Cyril Bennett.

On the front row, the trombone player on the left is Albert Jones, who went as 'Ab', and I think came from Selattyn; then there's Doug Lloyd's brother, Frank Lloyd, also from Llanyblodwel; then George Riley, who was living then in Oswald Road, Oswestry, on alto saxophone; Billy Gandy, of Oswestry, who went on to lead the band at the Victoria Rooms; Bill Cobb, who had the electrician's shop down Beatrice Street in Oswestry. The girl is Sheila Jones, from Oswestry. We had three singers. There was another girl, Barbara Parry, of Oswestry, who is not on the picture, and Rusty Roberts.'

The band in action in July 1947.

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Funding help for mature students

COLLEGE bosses are urging mature students to cash in on a new system of funding.

Walford and North Shropshire College, which has been allocated nearly £250,000 through the new loan scheme, has described the programme as a 'really great deal' for students aged 24 and over. The scheme will be introduced by the Government in September.

People aged 24 and over, who study level 3 or 4 qualifications including advanced and higher apprenticeships, will have the option of taking out a loan with the Student Loans Company as an alternative to paying course fees.

According to the Skills Funding Agency website, loans will be available for eligible learners aged 24 and over and will cover the cost of tuition, so learners do not have to pay upfront.

Paul Cordey, head of faculty for arts and science at the college, said: "Access students have gained a really great deal with the new 24+ loan scheme.

"Not only can they embark on a career changing course and enter university, but this loan is then wiped off the balance sheet when they gain a degree.

"It's a real 'win/win' situation for them."

For more information visit **www.wnsc.ac.uk**

History of one man and his dog had them foxed

THE study of domestication is, in reality, the history of people and wildlife.

From cats to gerbils and cows to hamsters, the bond between humans and other species is as important to us today as the opposable thumb and upright stance.

Domesticating species previously known as wildlife (both fauna and flora) and farming them for their milk, meat and fur, allowed the members of our own species who were not engaged with farming to concentrate on bronze, iron and oil. But one animal has been alongside our social evolution from the very beginning.

Archaeology has placed the earliest known domestication of dogs at approximately 30,000 BC, and with certainty at 7,000 BC (which is a severe kick in the teeth for those deluded young-earth/young human creationists!)

Perhaps the earliest clear evidence for the domestication of dogs as 'pets' is from a grave dated to 12,000 BP in Palestine where a dog is found buried with its human owner. Another grave in Germany dated to 14,000 BP displays joint human and dog interments.

Re-examination of material excavated from Goyet Cave in Belgium in the late 19th century resulted in the identification of a 31,700 year old dog, a large and powerful animal who ate reindeer, musk oxen and horses.

This dog was part of the Aurignacian culture that had produced the famous pre-historic art in Chauvet Cave, southern France. In 2010, the remains of a 33,000 year old dog were found in the Altai Mountains of southern Siberia. DNA analysis published this year affirmed that it was not just a 'domestic wolf', but that it was far more closely related to modern dogs than to wolves.

The genetic lineage of our retrievers, hounds and terriers points to the initial

ON THE WILD SIDE
with Ben Waddams

domestication of a single Grey Wolf, however one of the most fascinating of domestication experiments was done with the dogs that all of us are most familiar with, whether we own a pooch or not; foxes.

The famous 'farm fox' experiment of Russian scientist Dmitry Belyaev attempted to re-enact how the domestication of canids may have occurred. Researchers, working with wild silver foxes (a variation of our Shropshire red Foxes) selectively bred over 35 generations and 40 years for the sole trait of friendliness to humans. The 'friendliest' puppies were taken from each litter and bred from. Within just a few generations, the tamest foxes were actively seeking out human attention.

Unexpected

The newly domestic foxes responded to sounds two days earlier and opened their eyes one day earlier than their non-domesticated cousins. Their socialisation period was greatly increased and the whimpering and tail wagging, usually a holdover from puppyhood was also lengthened into adult life.

In conjunction with the behavioural changes, came unexpected physical transformations. These included spotted or black-and-white coats, floppy ears, tails that curled over their backs (rather than staying straight and low, like a fox's brush), the barking vocalisation and earlier sexual maturity. The typical foreshortened face and muzzle also manifested itself within the Belyaev foxes.

This 'hanger-on' effect in evolution, where

Spring Fox, *oil on board, by Ben Waddams.*

different, unexpected traits 'come along for the ride' throws up many interesting veins of study within the subject, providing evolutionary biologists endless excitement and leaves us naturalists in a happy state of wonder at the complexity of the natural world, whether we study it out in the woods and fields, or through our friend curled up by our feet.

New Ben Waddams originals can be seen on his website at: www.waddams.webs.com

NEWS in brief

Discover how to get career in sport

OSWESTRY Library will be holding a number of events this month.

Tomorrow (Friday) speakers from Energize Shropshire and Oswestry Leisure Centre will give help and advice on how to get into work in the sport and leisure sector.

The event will run from 10.30am and 11.30am. It will be part of the Oswestry Library Work Club.

On April 12 stories and activities will take place with the theme of 'poorly', in partnership with St John's Ambulance.

It will run from 2pm to 3pm and will be suitable for children aged between five and 10. It is free but places need to be booked.

Motown night is to aid school fund

PEOPLE are being asked to put on their dancing shoes for a charity fundraiser in aid of the Kenyan Schools Project.

A Motown night is taking place at the Ellesmere Comrades Sports & Social Club in Victoria Street tomorrow (Friday).

The event has been organised by Bill and Lynn Morris and starts at 7pm.

The charity, which was founded by the couple, has so far raised more than £11,000 for young children and babies in schools and orphanages in Kenya.

Entry is £5. To book a spot call (01691) 623229.

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Look what's included...

Day 1: Coach on Saturday morning as we travel to London. Time for lunch etc before our pre-booked guided tour of the Houses of Parliament at 4pm. The fascinating insight lasts about 1½ hours. The coach will be waiting for you after the tour to take you to the hotel at Heathrow.

Day 2: After breakfast we leave the hotel for our visit to Kensington Palace in the heart of London. Explore the new gardens, shop, café and terrace as well as four redesigned visitor routes revealing the Queen Victoria exhibition. Then time at Covent Garden before we leave for home.

We stay at the following hotels all within easy reach of central London; Thistle Heathrow, Jury's Inn Heathrow, Holiday Inn Heathrow and several others of similar standard at busy times. Your stay includes ensuite room with full facilities and breakfast.

Price includes: coach, hotel, breakfast & admisson to Houses of Parliament & Kensington Palace. *SS £20*

Coach departs: Saturday 20th July & 24th August £99

Limerick

& the Heritage Towns of Ireland's Shannon Region

5 Day Coach Trip £239

Limerick is a jewel of a county nestled into Ireland's glorious Shannon region. Renowned for their beauty, places like Cashell, Adare and Killaloe are magical and romantic.

Look what's included...

Day 1: Coach this morning as we head for Holyhead and board the Ferry to Dublin. Its an easy drive on the N7 to Limerick - about 2 hours away.

Days 2 and 3: We visit the charming twin towns of Ballina and Killaloe - one on each side of the river Shannon and linked by a stone bridge. The beautiful village of Adare, with its many original thatched cottages, Adare is often said to be the prettiest village in Ireland. We pass through the famous town of Tipperary to Cashell. One of the regions most important heritage towns and home to one of Ireland's most visited attractions - The Rock of Cashell. We also stop a while at ancient Holy Cross Abbey - a peaceful spot on the river Suir.

Day 4: Is left free to explore Limerick and we travel home next day after a last hearty Irish Breakfast.

We stay for 4 nights at **Pery's Hotel** in Limerick town. An excellent 3 star hotel - our customers love it. The hotel likes to serve a welcome punch on arrival and then dinner is served later.

Price includes: 4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast plus coach & ferry travel. *SS £60*

Coach departs: Saturday 27th July, 31st August & 28th September £239

Flower Show

Hampton Court £119

Fantastic 2 day trip visiting Royal Windsor and we cruise down the Thames to arrive at the famous Hampton Court Flower Show.

Thistle Hotel Heathrow
We chose this hotel as it's a good location for our purpose. A Modern hotel with full 3 star facilities.

Price includes: coach, hotel, breakfast, cruise & admission to hampton court flower show. *SS £20*

Day 1: Meet our coach this morning as we travel south to the Royal town of Windsor.You'll have a few hours free time to explore the town, have a spot of lunch or perhaps you'd like to visit the Castle and admire the magnificent restoration. Later, we go to our hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 2: After breakfast we leave our hotel and go to Kingston upon Thames and board a river boat for 30 minute cruise to the landing stage at Hampton Court Palace. Now you can enjoy hours of pleasure exploring what is arguably the best flower show, in the grounds of the Palace. We leave for home late afternoon.

Coach departs: Saturday 13th July £119

Cotswolds

Mini Coach Trip £79

Visiting Stratford-upon-Avon then stay overnight in a beautiful 4 star hotel with dinner and breakfast and the next day visit 3 of the nicest Cotswolds villages.

Look what's included...

Join the coach on **Sunday** morning for a leisurely journey to Stratford-upon-Avon. There's ample time to explore this ancient market town with time for lunch if you wish. Popular attractions include Shakespeare's birthplace in Henley Street and Holy Trinity church where he is buried.

Monday Enjoy a hearty breakfast before we leave the hotel and see 3 of the nicest towns and villages of the Cotswolds. First stop, Bourton-on-the-Water, then on to Stow-on-the-Wold (time for lunch in Stow) and finally, sleepy Broadway, possibly the most picturesque of all. We arrive home early evening.

We stay overnight at the **Cheltenham Chase Hotel** A 4 star hotel near Cheltenham Racecourse. Includes swimming pool, guest rooms have movies on demand, internet & ensuite bathrooms.

Price includes: hotel, dinner, breakfast plus travel & excursions. *SS £20*

Coach departs: Sunday 14th April, 16th June, 21st July & 15th September £79

Lake District

5 Day Coach Trip £269

Day 1: Coach this morning as we travel towards Cumbria and arrive at our hotel in the Shap Fells mid-afternoon.

Day 2: After breakfast we travel to Haverthwaite railway station and board a train (usually steam, sometimes diesel) for a short journey through the Leven Valley to Lakeside. After a short time in Lakeside we board a boat for a 40 minute cruise on stunning Lake Windermere, as we sail to Bowness. Free time in Bowness for lunch. We finish our day out at the **Lakeland motor museum** in its new, purpose-built venue, there's a fantastic array of cars of every kind plus the Campbell Bluebird exhibition.

Day 3: Today we have a tour around the centre of the Lake District National Park passing Rydal Water, Grasmere Lake, Esthwaite Waters and Coniston Water along the way, stopping at some of the well-known towns including Grasmere, Ambleside, Hawkeshead and Coniston. Returning to our hotel later this afternoon.

Day 4: A trip to **Yorkshire Dales National Park**, first to **Carnforth** for a short stop at the restored Carnforth train station. We continue to **Settle** and board a train on the famous **Settle to Carlise line**. This journey meanders through Pennine moorland scenery and over spectacular viaducts. We leave the train at the market town of Appleby and rejoin the coach to travel back to our hotel.

Day 5: After a last, breakfast - it's time to go home.

Shap Wells Hotel
Situated in the Cumbrian fells in a secluded, wooded valley, high in the Shap Fells and surrounded by mountain streams and beautiful countryside with red deer, red squirrels and other wildlife within the grounds of the hotel.

Price includes: 4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast plus trips out as shown. *SS £30*

Coach departs: Monday 19th August £269

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THE ARTS

Firm's donation helps young radio broadcasters

by Chrissy Symmons

YOUNG broadcasters making their own radio shows in Oswestry have been given a computer and monitor to help their efforts.

Fusion Arts Oswestry, based at The Centre, is to run a two-hour internet-based radio show on Fridays from 5.30pm.

Now Oswestry business Micro Plus Computers has donated some equipment to youngsters working at the site in Oak Street.

The computer will be used as the main hub for the new FAO radio show that airs every Friday on internet station Rad Radio. Eventually it will function as the main system for FAO's own radio station that is expected to be up and running by the end of this year.

Jay Moore, FAO chairman, expressed his sincere gratitude for the generous donation.

He said: "It's great to have so many local businesses supporting the new projects we have going on at Fusion Arts Oswestry.

"We really want to thank Micro Plus Computers for contributing valuable equipment and expertise to help us get ourselves established.

"It really means a lot to us to have support from the local community, so we want to show our appreciation and encourage people from the area to send business their way."

The radio show is run for 10-19 year olds by the young people themselves and will feature music, current affairs and adverts.

Mr Moore said that those involved in the show were creating some hard hitting adverts featuring interviews with those who have been affected by drugs and alcohol.

He said eventually the aim was for FAO to have its own internet station.

The Fusion Arts group also offers a host of music and arts based events for young people.

Qube to mark 10 years

From left, volunteer Stuart Morris, marketing communications officer Tonia Parry and Qube transport co-ordinator Richard Anthony.

STAFF from a volunteer centre in Oswestry are planning celebrations for the service's 10-year anniversary.

Qube, in Oswald Road, is planning a number of events for to take place this summer to mark the occasion of one of its important resources.

There plans for a charity market to be held on Bailey Head on June 7 with stalls and activities. The market will also have stalls with information about volunteer roles, organisations and people looking for volunteers.

The volunteer centre helps people across north Shropshire. Staff there say there has never been a more crucial time for people to start volunteering.

Anybody interested in finding out more about the charity market or volunteering can contact Qube on (01691) 656882 or email **info@qube-oca.org.uk**

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GIG GUIDE 01691 668094

Music keeps flowing as top acts lined up

GIG GUIDE with Chrissy Symmons

MUSIC continues to flow through Oswestry, Welshpool and across the borders this week.

Events kick off tomorrow (Friday) at the Cross Keys pub in Selattyn with Dermot Byrne & Floriane Blancke.

The two musicians play the accordion and the harp and Dermot is said to be one of Ireland's finest accordion players, best known as part of Altan.

Floriane Blancke, born in Paris, is a harpist, fiddler, pianist and singer. She is the granddaughter of jazz musician Stanislas Suranyi and her music has been influenced by his native Hungarian gypsy style.

The night starts at 8pm and will cost £8.

People are advised to book early by calling (01691) 791403 or (01948) 710218.

Music-lovers near Welshpool are invited to The Lowfield Inn, Marton, on Friday night from 8pm to hear the sounds of Mike Holloway. He will be bringing his one man band of tunes to the pub for a free night of entertainment.

The solo guitarist will play songs from soft acoustic ballads to dance-floor fillers.

He says there will be something to please everyone with songs from Hendrix, The Stones, Beatles, Animals, Eagles, Crowded House, Dire Straits and many more

For more information call (01743) 891313.

A Michael Jackson tribute night takes place on Saturday at the Royal Oak Hotel.

Tribute

Tomorrow night at Welshpool's Royal Oak Hotel Tony Skeggs will perform at the Oak Live event. On Saturday the hotel will have a Michael Jackson tribute night.

Saturday night at The Ironworks, in Oswestry, will see the Bear Music launch party. This will start at 9pm and will see music from Skitty, Dirtbox and Mr Jay Leeroy Theory. It will cost £3.

Live music also returns to The Angel in Welshpool on Saturday night when the Velvet Dukes complete their Easter tour and will be back on stage to entertain.

West Felton Village Hall will also be hosting an event on Saturday when there will be a race night fundraiser in aid of Severn Hospice. It will take place from 7.30pm.

Monday night is acoustic night at the Golden Lion Hotel, in Llandysilio. It is an event held every Monday for singers, songwriters, rock, folk and other acoustic music.

If you have a gig you would like to see in this guide then email **chrissy.symmons@shropshirestar.co.uk**

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LEE
Richard
Of Holy Cross Residential Home, on September 7, 2011, aged 32 years, formerly of Sunnyfields, Bell Lane, Shrewsbury.
Brother of Jan.
Service at Shrewsbury Crematorium on Friday, September 23, 2011, at 10.40am.
No flowers by request, donations if wished to SRF (Schizophrenia Research Fund), for which purpose a collection box will be provided at the Crematorium.
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Love and miss you always,
Wife Jackie.

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MARKETS

01691 668094

Welshpool livestock market

April 1
OTMS (16)

Sixteen over 30-month-old cattle sold to average 135ppkg for the older cows, 130ppkg for the younger cows and 176ppkg for the heifers. A Limousin cow weighing 728kg sold to a top price of £1,186.64 from D R Owen & Sons, Sandilands. A Charolais cow weighing 760kg from H E Davies & Co Brynuchel Isaf. D R Owen & Sons, Sandilands, receive the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25 for the highest price older cow sold on the day. We will be holding a sale for TB Tested over 30-month-cattle from Monday, April 8, at 9am in ring 2. If you require any further information regarding this section please contact the market on 01938 553438 or the auctioneer Glandon Lewis on 07774 224999.

FAT CATTLE (15)

An entry of 15 fat cattle sold very well to average 219ppkg overall. Heifers topped at 258ppkg for a Limousin weighing 562kg from GW & BA Haynes, Trefnant Isaf, which was bought by Rikki Lloyd of Welshpool. GW & BA Haynes also sold other heifers to 257ppkg, 252ppkg and 247ppkg. Steers topped at 240ppkg from Evans Brothers, Tynewydd, who also sold other steers to 238ppkg, 231ppkg, 229ppkg and 225ppkg. GW & BA Haynes, Trefnant Isaf, receives the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25 for the highest price per kilo animal sold on the day. Weekly sale of fat cattle every Monday commence at approximately 12.30pm.

More fat cattle urgently required to meet a very strong demand from potential purchasers. If you have require any advice or wish to sell fat cattle at the market please contact the auctioneer Glandon Lewis on 07774 224999 or the market office on 01938 553438.

PRIME HOGGETS (3751)

An entry of 3,751 prime hoggets sold to an overall average of 197ppkg.

Super Lights (17.5kg to 25.4kg) (33) to 165ppkg from I R B Bebb, Frrid Cowny. Average of 154ppkg.

Lights (25.5kg to 32kg) (320) to 217ppkg from W G Jones, Cwmduggan. Others to 197ppkg from C L Gale, Isycoed. Average of 188ppkg.

Standards (32.1kg to 39kg) (803) to 221ppkg from G J E Hughes & Son, Old House. Others to 210ppkg from S J Smith, Penybryn. Average of 191ppkg.

Mediums (39.5kg to 45.5kg) (1228) to 225ppkg from C J & LM Davies, Lawns Farm. Others to 222ppkg from R Lewis, Tynypistyll. Average of 202ppkg.

Heavies (45.1kg to 52kg) (754) to 204ppkg from JR, RM & JP Andrew, Bronheulog & R E Evans & Son, Dinnant. Others to 203ppkg from M P B Ashton & Son, Belanddu. Average of 192ppkg.

Over Weights (Over 52kg) (374) to 184ppkg from M P B Ashton & Son, Belanddu. Others to 183ppkg from E L Evans, Derlwyn. Average of 172ppkg.

SPRING LAMBS (31)

An entry of spring lambs sold to an overall average of 246ppkg.

Standards (32.1kg to 39kg) (11) to 276ppkg from P & CE Davies, The Crest. Others to 262pkg from M J Williams, Pontyperson. Average of 244ppkg.

Mediums (39.5kg to 45.5kg) (2) to 260ppkg from P & CE Davies, The Crest. Average of 257ppkg.

Heavies (45.1kg to 52kg) (14) to 213ppkg from J A Hamer, Upper Glynbrochan. Average of 212ppkg.

CULL EWES (1677)

An entry of 1,677 cull sheep on offer for sale today, sold to average £56.80 for the ewes and £67.93 for the rams. Top price of the day for the ewes was £128per head from E L Evans & Co, The Green. Top price for the cull rams was £113 per head from GL, JS & A Howells, Shadog Farm. Weekly sale of cull sheep to immediately follow the sale of fat lambs at approximately noon.

STORE LAMBS

An entry of 150 store lambs sold to a sharp trade. Better meated lambs in demand and selling to £66 from M E Thomas, Felincoed, for ewe lambs.

Couples were generally harder sold with the slow grass growth being the main reason. Top price was £205 for three-year-old Texel ewes with twin lambs at foot from TP & DE Pryce, Timber Yard.

Only 130 cade lambs forward. Sold to average £8.50, selling to a top of £22.

COWS & CALVES

An entry of five cows and calves met with a steadier trade, with fewer people around the ring due to lambing and the weather. AS & EM Goolden & Sons, Cilbach, sold a Limousin x 1st calver with a Charolais cow and bull calf for £1,500. Two Limousin x 1st calvers with Limousin x calves at foot from J B C Gwillim, Bwlchgarth, made £1,350 and £1,340. M E Lloyd, Gate Farm, sold a Simmental x 3rd calver with a bull calf for £1,300. Next sale of cows and calves will take place on Monday, April 15.

FORTHCOMING SALES

Monday,April 8, sale of dairy cows and Easter spring lambs show and sale.

Tuesday, April 9, sale of organic, weanlings and store cattle.

Monday, April 15, sale of cows and calves.

Thursday, April 18, sale of pedigree Charolais cattle.

Monday, April 22, sale of dairy cattle.

Monday, April 29, sale of cows and calves.

Tuesday, April 30, April store cattle fair.

Monday, May 6, sale of dairy cows, cows and calves and prize sale of couples.

Monday, May 13, cows and calves.

Tuesday, May 14, store cattle.

Thursday, May 16, sale of pedigree Limousin, Simmental, salers and Charolais cattle.

Saturday, May 18, machinery sale at Coed y Dinas.

Monday, May 20, cows and calves and dairy cows.

Monday, May 27, cows and calves.

Tuesday May 28, store cattle and weanlings.

Welshpool Livestock Sales
February 26

A good entry of 600 store cattle were forward for the March Fair on Tuesday, March 26.

Many farmers were unable to attend sale with their cattle due to the terrible snowy weather conditions and farmers lambing.

The trade was excellent with many buyers from all over the United Kingdom. Steers (330) sold to average 238.66ppkg £1,073.80 per head and heifers (272) sold to average 214ppkg £874.01 per head.

Leading prices being as follows: Steers (£ per head):

Charolais x (x1) 625kg £1,550 from J W Power, Maesygraig.

Charolais x (x2) 627kg £1,500 from P A Lloyd & T S Weirzbinski, Cartref.

Charolais x (x1) 585kg £1,490 from R Richards & Co, Maenllengen.

Charolais x (x1) 560kg £1,450 from A J T Powell, Wern.

Charolais x (x1) 575kg £1,425 from R Richards & Co, Maenllengen.

Charolais x (x1) 545kg £1,390 from T G Bennett & Co, Neuadd.

Heifers (£ per head):

Charolais x (x1) 625kg £1,450 from TH & G Davies & Sons, Celyn Mawr.

British Blue x (x1) 600kg £1,420 from W Ashton & Co, Waengittin.

Limousin x (x1) 550kg £1,270 from K A Jones, Penrhiw.

British Blue x (x1) 530kg £1,250 from T G Bennett & Co, Neuadd.

British Blue x (x1) 550kg £1,200 from BTR & R Gittins, Lower Sylfaen.

Limousin x (x1) 52kg £1,175 from T G Bennett & Co, Neuadd.

Steers (Per Kilo):

Charolais x (x4) 377kg 298.1ppkg from J S Abel, Hendre Aur.

Charolais x (x1) 410kg 285.4ppkg from EA & MP Rees, Dugwm Farm.

Charolais x (x1) 440kg 279.5ppkg from FM & SA Thomas & Son, Frongoch.

Charolais x (x6) 391kg 278.8ppkg from T E Williams & Son, Red House.

Charolais x (x3) 395kg 277ppkg from J S Abel, Hendre Aur.

Charolais x (x10) 424kg 275.9ppkg from IWL & PE Evans, Maescarneddau.

Heifers (Per Kilo):

Charolais x (x7) 357kg 257.7ppkg from J S Abel, Hendre Aur.

Charolais x (x6) 382kg 255.2ppkg from J S Abel, Hendre Aur.

Charolais x (x7) 352kg 244.3ppkg from J S Abel, Hendre Aur.

Limousin x (x4) 285kg 242.1ppkg from RP & SE Wilde, Middle Sylfaen.

Charolais x (x4) 411kg 240.9ppkg from J S Abel, Hendre Aur.

Charolais x (x6) 370kg 240.5ppkg from IWL & PE Evans, Maescarneddau.

Entries now invited for the store cattle sale on Tuesday May 14 and 28.

Oswestry cattle auctions

March 27

FAT CATTLE: (46)

A decent entry of Cattle forward considering the weather conditions locally. Some decent Cattle forward also, and a good trade to go with it.

Top slots hit 267p Heifers, 214p Steers and 204p Bulls. Highest price in the lump was £1458 for a Heifer. Bottom book of 158p for a Friesian Bull.

An overall Market Average of 208.5p was achieved. If you have cattle to sell please contact the Auctioneer Jonathan Evans on 07971 002650 or the Market office.

Young Bulls (12) Overall Average 187.5p.

Light Bulls (1) Selling to 175p (£787/head) from J E Evans & Sons Tedsmore Farm

Medium Bulls (3) Average 185.5p (£935/head) Selling to 204p from C E Evans Lower Hendre

Heavy Bulls (8) Average 189p (£1135/head) Selling to 204p from D T Roberts Ty Issa Farm

Steers (9) Overall Average 193.5p.

Medium Steers (1) Selling to 211p (£1149/head) from R H Lewis & Son New House Farm

Heavy Steers (8) Average 192p (£1200/head) Selling to 214p from R H Lewis & Son New House Farm

Heifers (25) Overall Average 226p

Medium Heifers (7) Average 232.5p (£1090/head) Selling to 259p from E Lloyd & Co Garthiaen

Heavy Heifers (18) Average 223.5p (£1210/head) Selling to 267p from E Lloyd & Co Garthiaen

A very pleasing trade hopefully the weather will let you bring a few more Cattle, thank you for your continued support.

FAT LAMBS: (7)

Standards to 311p, Mediums to 291p, Overall average 306.5p.

FAT HOGGETTS: (1916)

Superlights to 149p, Lights to 195p average 184.5p, Standards to 201p average 193.5p, Mediums to 235p average 204p, Heavy's to 204p average 194.5p, Others to 191p average 179p. Overall average 200p.

FAT EWES: (194)

Ewes to £112 average £64, Rams to £110, average £58.50.

Please Note : All sheep entering the Market must be tagged.

CALVES: (23)

As expected, only a small offering following the recent heavy snowfall.

Fairly good demand for both Limousin Bulls and Heifers. Friesians somewhat subdued. Limousin Bulls topping at £270 from Messrs Williams Lightwood Hall, £270 & £266 from Messrs Lloyd Roberts Pennant Farm, £245 from Messrs Wigley Drenewydd, £240 from Messrs Jones Moreton Farm.

Blonde Heifers to £254 from Messrs Edwards Plasyncoed. Limousin Heifers to £222 from Messrs Jones Moreton Farm, £220 from Messrs Wigley Drenewydd. Friesian Bulls to £80 from Messrs Williams Lightwood Hall.

STORE CATTLE: (64)

An entry dramatically reduced by the weather conditions was met with spirited bidding to achieve a total clearance for this mixed entry of cattle. Top price of the day was £1165 (223p/kg) paid for a bunch of 6 British Blue x steers aged 21-22 months sold by J M & E A Jones, Llansantffraid.

37 steers averaged £912 (196p/kg) with notable prices including:

£1085 (245p/kg) paid for a bunch of 7 Aberdeen Angus x steers aged 24-26 months sold by

D J & E G Jones & Son, Llansilin.

£1120 (224p/kg) paid for a Limousin x steer aged 18 months sold by D & E Price-Jones, Overton.

27 heifers averaged £706 (195.5 p/kg) with notable prices including:

£870 (200p/kg) paid for a pair of Charolais x heifers aged 19 months sold by

P G Wainwright & Co, Caersws.

£885 (203p/kg) paid for 7 Aberdeen Angus x heifers aged 24-31 months sold by

D J & E G Jones, Llansilin.

Entries are invited for the next sale on the 10th April with further sales to be held on the 17th and 24th April

U72 & CULL COWS: (23)

23 Cattle forward in the poor weather conditions returned vendors with another excellent trade.

Cows

Friesian to 148p average 128.49p/kg

Angus to 134p average 124.93p/kg

Simmental to 162pkg

Heifers

Friesian to 174p average 161.86p/kg

Angus to 182p/kg

Hereford to 170p/kg

Steers

British Blue to 196p average 193.03p/kg

Friesian to 185p average 179.07p/kg

23 Cattle average 145.15p/kg

If any vendor has changed their Farm Assured details please could you notify the market office 01691 653547 so our data base can be updated many thanks.

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09-59 Kia Soul Level 1 5dr — Brilliant Black — WAS £6495 NOW £5695

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08-58 Mazda MX-5 1.8i Roadster Coupe (Electric Roof) — Metallic Grey — WAS £9995 NOW £8995

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2009 59	MERCEDES CLC 200 COUPE IN RED, PAN ROOF, SAT NAV, PDC FRONT AND REAR 35000 MILES	£10,995

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Updated Qashqai still leads the way in Crossover market

Drive time with Graham Breeze

JUST about every manufacturer is eyeing up the Crossover market but the Nissan Qashqai is right up there as a sector leader.

Business Car magazine has identified the Qashqai as their 'Crossover Of The Year' as the business community embraces the car's distinctive look and a drive that surpasses expectations.

Built at Nissan's plant in Sunderland, the Qashqai was recognised in a sector filled with quality opposition and has remained fresh thanks to a series of updates making the car an attractive alternative in the fleet car sector.

Launched in the UK in March 2007 the Qashqai is easily Nissan's most successful vehicle to date with over a million worldwide sales since launch.

There's distinctive 4x4 styling and competitive pricing while re-sale values are strong. The Qashqai is comfortable and surprisingly refined but the downside of all that comfort comes in the road handling department with too much body lean in bends for my liking.

The 130PS 1.6-litre diesel option on test provides 61.4mpg and just 135g/km CO2 to offer a greener and more cost-effective solution for fleets.

Inside the cabin there's a high seating position and plenty of steering adjustment and controls are clear and easy to find even if the dash is a little dated. There's plenty of kit to keep you safe, including stability control, front, side and curtain airbags and active front head restraints that move forward in a rear-end shunt to minimise whiplash.

Thieves will be deterred by deadlocks, a visible VIN and marked parts to make life difficult for them.

The 360 on test came with a 1.6DCi engine and really stood out in magnetic red. The name reflects the fact that this model comes with a 360 degree 'bird-view' parking assist which made pulling into the smallest of spaces a joy.

There's a 5inch screen navigation system, cruise control and Bluetooth connectivity as well as electric mirrors, front and rear powered windows. The 360 is identified by exterior badging and has gloss black roof rails and door mirrors, sits on 18inch alloy wheels, has a panoramic glass sunroof, rear privacy glass and aluminium pedals.

While prices start at a reasonable level this model hit the road at £25,237 with the magnetic paint and even mats costing extra.

Impressively you can expect to return 61.4mpg on the combined cycle and still reach speeds of 62mph in under 11 seconds.

There's enough room for five in comfort, a huge boot but disappointment when trying to fold the rear seats flat – they just don't.

Despite that this is still a pretty good buy. There's so much on the kit list that would cost you more on rival models and as an all-rounder it is pretty hard to beat. There's the convenience of a hatchback and the high-riding stance of an off-roader.

The updated Nissan Qashqai 360 continues to lead the way

The Qashqai's dash is a little dated but still works well

The distinctive rear of the Qashqai

Bumper to bumper

Nissan Qashqai
Model: 360 dCi
Price: £25,237
Top speed: 118mph
0-62mph: 10.9secs
Combined fuel: 61.4mpg
CO2 emissions: 135g/km

Qashqai is Nissan's best seller

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Mokka's double bonus

The revolutionary Mokka SUV has raised considerable interest in another new Vauxhall product, according to Shropshire's award-winning Vauxhall dealer.

Nigel Williams, managing director of Arthurs Vauxhall, said the Antara Diamond Special Edition was benefiting from interest in the Mokka.

"We are finding that many people who had initially set their sights on the Mokka SE model have switched to buying an Antara Diamond due to lack of availability of the new Mokka."

He announced that Arthurs had bought a large batch of Corsa and Astra models over the last few days.

"We are still finding that these are the mainstay of the sales operation – they continue to sell extremely well," Nigel said.

"We are finding that many buyers are attracted by the low monthly payment which is due to Vauxhall's unique nil deposit, zero % finance offer, over five years.

"It is an extremely busy time for us. We are very much open for business and offering very good deals in order to maximise our sales."

He continued: "The recent launch of the ADAM has created even more interest and our showroom footfall has been as high in the last two or three weeks as at any time we can remember.

"Another great bonus for new car buyers is the unique Lifetime Warranty offered by Vauxhall and not surprisingly many customers are fully aware of this when coming to inquire about a new Vauxhall.

"With new car sales being so buoyant this month, it has brought a significant number of cars in part exchange which we will be retailing. And having other marques allows us to reach out to an even wider customer base.

"The Vauxhall Network Q used car programme is still regarded as the best of its kind available and provides the customer with greater peace of mind than other used car programmes."

Phil Ellison of the Arthurs of Oswestry sales team with the new Mokka SUV

Year off to a perfect start

Blemish-free customer satisfaction surveys have got the year off to a 'perfect' start for an award-winning Vauxhall dealer.

Arthurs, which has branches in Oswestry and Newtown, has been praised by Martin Challinor, Vauxhall's area service manager, on being one of a very few Vauxhall dealers to have a perfect score for service satisfaction so far this year.

Mark Evans, Arthurs of Oswestry service manager, said: "A great deal of focus and attention is paid to try and give every customer a really great experience when visiting Arthurs.

"Although we have always done very well in Vauxhall customer service rankings, scores and performance, we are making a conscious effort to further this part of the business as customer expectations grow.

"As well as providing extra training in this area for our service advisors, we also carry out random quality checks every day. These quality checks are recorded.

"Any areas where we don't feel we have been perfect we analyse the reasons and put in plans to ensure it doesn't happen again."

Mark Evans

Motability takes to road with a full range of cars

Disabled motorists can explore all their mobility options at a family friendly event launching this summer.

Taking place over two days at Stoneleigh Park Indoor Exhibition Centre in Warwickshire, 'The Big Event' will showcase the biggest range of cars available on the Motability Scheme in the UK.

Hosted by Motability – the leading car scheme for disabled people, The Big Event kicks off the established programme of regional One Big Day events on Friday 17 and Saturday May 18 ,2013 with a further four events taking place across the UK throughout the summer.

Visitors to The Big Event will have access to more than 80 cars from over 20 manufacturers, over 30 models of scooters and a wide range of car adaptations and Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles.

There will also be a fleet of more than 30 adapted and non-adapted cars available for both drivers and passengers to test drive, with a professional driving instructor.

Expert Motability advisors and specialists will be on hand for those thinking of joining the Scheme for the first time or customers looking to renew their Motability car.

The Big Event provides fun for the whole family with free parking, a free cup of tea or coffee and the chance to win an iPad mini.

The little ones can make the most of the children's play area, face painting as well as the chance to meet the Motability mascot 'Billy the Bear'.

Mike Betts chief executive, Motability Operations explains:"This will be our sixth year of holding One Big Day events and we're pleased to be going bigger and better for 2013.

"To date, more than 30,000 visitors have joined us at our events and with 'The Big Event' launching the 2013 programme, it gives even more people the chance to attend.

Disabled motorists will be able to see all their options at Stoneleigh Park

Informed

"Stoneleigh Park Indoor Exhibition Centre is a great venue, so we don't even need to worry about the British weather. The huge variety of cars, products and adaptations on display means visitors will leave feeling well informed and having had a fun day out."

The full 2013 One Big Day line-up:

- The Big Event at Stoneleigh Park Indoor Exhibition Centre, Warwickshire on May 17/18 2013.
- One Big Day at Bath and West Showground, Somerset on Saturday June 15, 2013.
- One Big Day at Glow, Bluewater, Kent on Tuesday July 9 2013.
- One Big Day at Newcastle Racecourse, Northumberland on Thursday August 1 2013.
- One Big Day at Aintree Racecourse, Merseyside on Thursday August 8 2013 .

All events will open at 9am, and finish at 4pm.

Visitors will also be able to share their One Big Day experiences by interacting with the 'Motability Events' Facebook page. 'Like' the page to stay up-to-date on all the latest news and developments from the Motability Events team.

For more information on The Big Event visit **www.motability.co.uk/thebigevent** and for information on the full One Big Day programme visit **www.motability.co.uk/onebigday**

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06 FORD FOCUS ZETEC TDCi Blue £5475
06 TOYOTA AVENSIS T3S Auto. 38,000 miles SOLD
06 FORD FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC Diesel, Silver £3495
06 SUZUKI JIMNY 4x4 £5325
55 MAZDA RX8. Black, 39k SOLD
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Honda's new bike is a winner all round and lot of fun off beaten track

By Bob Hickman

At long last a motorcycle manufacturer has appreciated that there are an awful lot of riders who want to have fun and are not enamoured by the power surging, race replica motorcycles that seem to be the norm these days.

Honda with the introduction of the CRF 250L have reintroduced the fun aspect in to motor cycling with this new single cylinder 250cc motorcycle.

Honda over the years has honed the off-road marketplace and their racing pedigree goes before it, I remember many years ago the sheer enjoyment that light weight trail bikes, especially Yamaha with their 175cc, could give to the motorcyclist.

They were brilliant for commuting but then if you had the opportunity to venture off-road and go down a few green lanes a whole new world was there to be examined.

Potholes will prove no problem for the new Honda CRF 250L

The sleek CRF 250L is at home in ther city and in the fields

Legal

Honda with the new CRF 250 have reintroduced this element, it is a brand new motorcycle that blends true off-road performance with style and the opportunity to have a street legal commuter machine as well, so you really can have your cake and eat.

The new bike is powered by a free revving 249cc single cylinder DOHC 4-valve engine.

This liquid cooled product produces a reasonable power output and has a torque factor that whilst not overly excitable enables the engine to rev and as most motorcyclists appreciate that is where performance on a motorcycle actually comes from.

It is fuel injected so this gives reasonably good fuel economy and certainly you should be looking for at least 60 or 70 mpg from this machine if you are going to be using it for commuting purposes.

One of the big features of fuel injection is the smooth power delivery,

The quality of the 250L shines through and the steel oval section twin spar frame is a work of art. It has 43mm upside down Showa forks at the front and these are complemented at the back with a single Showa shock absorber and Honda's proven pro-link suspension. This enables the machine to glide over ruts and bumps and certainly enables it to not be feared by potholes should you be using this bike for commuting.

What it does give is a rear end section that is capable of moving with the terrain and finding grip thanks to the pseudo off-road tyres that are fitted.

To ensure that the performance can be adequately reined in when required Honda have equipped the bike with a single 256mm front disc and at the rear a smaller 220mm disc. The front one has the benefit of a twin piston operated system, whilst the rear one has a single piston option.

The wheel rims are aluminium and have spokes for rigidity, and this also helps to reduce the unsprung weight.

The seat height is extremely high and those vertically challenged or with short legs will find it to be a problem but once on the machine the long travel suspension just swallows out undulations, bumps and whatever you may encounter if you venture off-road.

The engine was at all times extremely responsive, the gearbox is an absolute delight to operate and unlike most Honda gear boxes it didn't clunk when you selected 1st gear.

Countdown

The instrumentation was clear and easy to understand and the digital dashboard really gave you what you needed to be fully aware of, including a countdown graphic for when the fuel level was getting low.

The 7.7 litre fuel tank is not huge, but the economics of this particular machine are not one of a touring bike where you need a big capacity and it was more than sufficient for off-roading and riding to work situations.

With a price of £3,950 I am reasonably confident that the CRF 250L will be yet another of the successes for the Honda stable and with their excellent warranty and after sales service, I can see nothing but success for this machine.

The CRF 250L is both smart and functional

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2009 59	**RENAULT CLIO 16v EXPRESSION 5-door.** Metallic Silver, 25,000 miles	£6,499
2009 59	**SEAT IBIZA 1.6 SPORT** 5-door. Metallic Grey, 24,000 miles, FSH	£6,999
2009 09	**SKODA FABIA 2 1.4 Estate.** Blue Metallic, one owner, only 15,000 miles from new	£7,499
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2009 59	**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 SRi** 3-door. Automatic, Metallic Black, 1 owner, 12,000 miles	£7,499
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2003 03	**VAUXHALL VECTRA 2.0 DTi SALOON Manual.** Metallic Grey, 84,000 miles	£2,999
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CARS OF THE WEEK

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SPORT

Ifton hope for winning start to the new season

IFTON will be looking for a winning start when they launch their new season in the Flowfit Shropshire Premier Bowls League with a home clash against new boys Burway tomorrow night (friday).

After finishing ninth last term in the top flight of Shropshire bowls, the St Martins side would have been slightly disappointed and will be hoping to push higher up the table this time around.

Heavy snow in the past fortnight has made preparations difficult, but they hope to be up and running tomorrow evening against a south Shropshire side who will be a bit of an unknown quality after their promotion last term via the play-offs.

The team include two new faces in Martin Jones and Simon Evans, both from Wrexham, while they will be boosted by the fact Andrew Hughes is available all season.

The one notable departure during the winter is Graham Dulson who has switched to league rivals Meole Brace.

Ladies pair win with 34pt total

LESLEY Cookson and Rachel Pritchard won the Coronation Foursomes at Llanymynech Golf Club with a score of 34pts.

They were followed by Ann Garbutt and Ann Holmes with 33pts.

League tables

Mercian Regional Football League

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Church Stretton	20	12	4	42	34	40
Morda United	18	12	3	48	25	39
AFC Ludlow	17	12	3	51	16	38
Telford Juniors	17	9	3	28	17	32
FC Hodnet	18	9	7	30	22	29
Allscott	19	8	9	42	42	26
Shifnal United 97	18	7	8	29	28	24
Oakengates Ath	17	7	8	34	29	23
Ketley Bank Utd	19	6	10	26	41	21
Wellington Ams R	16	6	8	24	32	20
Weston Rhyn	19	4	13	18	38	14
Whitchurch Alp R	17	2	10	23	44	11
Dawley Town	13	2	10	10	37	7

DIVISION 1

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Prees FC	23	17	6	91	41	51
Ketley Town	17	16	3	100	30	50
Oswestry Lions	23	15	5	79	39	48
Rock Rovers FC	18	14	1	82	29	45
Wroxeter Rovers	20	14	5	78	31	43
Madeley Sports	19	13	3	62	20	42
Bishops Castle T	21	12	5	64	36	40
Oswestry BC	20	8	7	38	33	29
Brown Clee	19	7	11	40	55	22
Clee Hill	17	5	9	33	51	18
Meole Brace	22	5	15	39	77	17
Hopesgate United	17	3	13	33	73	10
Morda Utd Res	19	3	15	28	90	10
Shawbury Utd Res	23	2	19	21	105	8
Wrock Wood Jnrs	19	1	17	26	100	4

Welshpool Dominoes

DIVISION 1

	P	W	L	F	A
Pinewood C	24	19	5	113	55
Social Club A	24	18	6	113	55
Celts	24	15	9	102	66
Pinewood A	24	14	10	90	78
Waterloo	24	14	10	89	79
Compasses	24	13	11	87	81
Sun Inn	24	12	12	87	81
G/Dragon Butt B	24	12	12	86	82
Cock P/A	24	9	15	72	96
Powis Arms P/O	24	8	16	65	103
G/Dragon Butt A	24	7	17	64	104
Pinewood Dragons	24	7	17	63	105
Bowling Club	24	8	16	61	107

DIVISION 2

	P	W	L	F	A
Railway	26	21	5	126	56
Cock A	26	17	9	113	69
RAF Boys	26	14	12	100	82
Talbot	26	14	12	98	84
Westwood	26	14	12	96	86
Horseshoe	26	15	11	94	86
Westwood Wand	26	13	13	94	88
Grapes	26	14	12	86	96
Angel	26	12	14	85	97
Kings Head	26	12	14	85	97
Breidden	26	11	15	84	98
The Real Railways	26	11	15	83	99
Muriels Bunch	26	11	15	80	100
Wellington	26	4	22	49	133

Stonehouse Brewery Oswestry & District Dominoes League

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Top White Lion	24	12	4	91	53	32
Black Lion A	24	14	6	85	59	32
White Lion	24	12	5	86	58	31
Bell Oswestry	24	10	4	82	62	30
Cross Keys	24	9	3	82	62	30
Black Lion B	24	12	6	80	64	30
Plas Yn Dinas	24	11	7	77	67	28
Station	24	7	6	76	68	25
Horseshoe	23	10	9	71	67	24
Penybont Inn	24	7	9	71	73	22
Railway Inn	24	6	11	63	81	19
Black Horse	24	4	13	54	90	15
Royal Hill	24	1	20	33	111	5

Penybont Inn 5, Royal Hill 1; Plas Yn Dinas 4, Station 2; Black Lion B 1, Cross Keys 5; White Lion Llynclys 4, Black Horse 2; Bell 3, Black Lion A 3.

Stalwart George, 100, hoping for Criftins joy

The George Hillier Centenary Shelter at the Criftins Bowls Club complete with shield

CRIFTINS A will be defending their Oswestry and District Bowls League division one crown this season – and hoping to follow them all the way will be clubman George Hillier who has just celebrated his 100th birthday.

George is a keen bowler who played league matches for Criftins right up to last year, until a recent illness curtailed his bowling.

However, he is on the mend and hoping to attend league matches as a supporter this term, while still being involved with the running of the club.

As a tribute to his service to the club, Criftins have built a weather shelter at their green, naming it "the George Hillier Centenary Shelter".

George officiated on the Oswestry and District Bowling League committee for many years and was once its secretary.

George at his 100th birthday party

Kershaw is first home as season off to flyer

DESPITE the unseasonally chilly weather, Maldwyn Harriers' 2013 race series got off to a sizzling start as 91 runners, including representatives from 17 different clubs, completed the traditional Good Friday Chocoholics 5km run from Maldwyn Leisure Centre.

Oswestry's Jimmy Kershaw was the victor in 16.18 minutes with Maldwyn's Tim Davies (16:32) second and Luke Davies of Brecon (17.10) in third.

Luke's performance was all the more remarkable considering he is only 12 years of age.

In fact, six of the first 10 athletes, including Kershaw and the first woman home, seventh placed Ffion Price (17.48) of Llandrindod Wells but who was representing Cardiff, were under 20 years of age, showcasing the young athletic talent in and around Powys.

Two more teenagers, Ffion's sister Rhianwedd, also representing Cardiff AC (19.33), and Maldwyn's Alex Cawthra (20.40) were the second and third placed women.

Full results including age group category winners can be found on the club's website.

Rhyn top flight delight but skipper warns of tough test

WESTON RHYN are relishing being back in the top flight of the Oswestry and District Bowls League – but captain Brian Oakley believes his team will have their work cut out when the campaign gets underway next Tuesday.

With snow still lying around this week, clubs will be hoping for a big improvement in the weather as they look to get their greens in some sort of shape ahead of a busy league season.

And Rhyn will be among those wanting to warm to the challenge when the temperatures finally rise, as they launch their season in the top flight with a trip to Johnstown A.

Despite missing out on the second division crown by just one shot to champions Flexsys A after a 7-3 defeat to their title rivals on the final night of the season, Oakley was still happy enough with the promotion.

"It's many years since Weston Rhyn have been in the top division, so we're delighted to be back," he said. "It would have been nice to have won the title but the main thing was promotion.

"There are a lot of very good players in division one so we may find it hard, but we will give it a good go.

"We may hold our own at home, but it's going to be difficult on away greens."

Last season's champions **CRIFTINS A** get their title defence underway on home soil at Criftins Parish Hall against Corwen A.

They will be keen to keep a grip of their division one crown which they lifted despite surprisingly losing 8-2 at already relegated **CHURCH B** in their last match of the season.

LLANYMYNECH A just about lived to fight another day in division one last season with victory on a tense last night of the season, so will be hoping to steer clear of any basement drama this time around.

WHITTINGTON A, one of many clubs still under snow this week, are looking to improve last season's mid-table finish as they prepare to launch their season at home to Ruabon A.

"We didn't finish as high as we would have liked, but hopefully we can do better this time," said skipper Aled Davies who hopes of have a nine man squad available for most weeks with Ben Hampson stepping up from the B team.

"It's a tricky first game against Ruabon, but we'll take any win after not being able to practise much on our green."

BOWLS
by John Bridgwater

CHURCH A, who are again captained this term by Travis Stokes, also look to better their mid-table finish of last season as they get their campaign underway with a tricky trip to newly promoted Flexsys A.

Three players who helped the club's C team win the fourth division last term have been handed their first team chance, with Adrian Humphries, Martin Jones and Steve Lewis stepping up a level.

Defeats

After their adventure in division one last term, **CHURCH B** find themselves back in division two of the Oswestry and District Bowls League this time around. They went out with all guns blazing last season with a shock 8-2 win over champions Criftins, and will be hopeful of an instant return to the top flight .

Long standing captain Emrys Jones has relinquished the captaincy duties, with Natalie Guylar stepping up to lead the side, while a couple of players have moved up to first team duties this term.

Having seen their second division promotion hopes fade in the second half of the season, **LLANRHAEADR A** will be hoping for another push this term with the same squad at their disposal.

Mel Roberts has stepped down as skipper, but remains in a playing capacity, while the club are likely to share the captaincy duties this time round.

YE OLDE CROFE will be seeking better fortunes on the road this season after paying the price for some poor away defeats last term.

While their home form was excellent, they know they will have to travel better this time around.

After dispelling any relegation fears in the last two weeks of the season, **WHITTINGTON B** look forward to another season in division two. **BLACK LION** finished last term strongly, so will be aiming to carry on from where they left off last time out.

While their A team were lifting the first division crown, **CRIFTINS B** enjoyed less favourable fortunes as they found themselves relegated to division three where they will be joined by their **CRIFTINS C** side and **CHURCH C** who make the step up from division four.

Scheduled opening night fixtures (Tuesday, April 9): Division One: Criftins A v Corwen A, Flexsys A v Church A, Johnstown A v Weston Rhyn A, Llanymynech A v Chirk A, Overton A v Ceiriog Valley A, Whittington A v Ruabon A.

Division Two: Church B v Ye Olde Crofte A, Cynwyd A v Llangollen A, George v Black Lion, Llangynog A v Whittington B, Llanrhaeadr A v Johnstown D.

Snow joke for new bowls season

INSTEAD of traditionally bowling off the new season on Thursday, Wynnstay Bowling Club's newly elected President Bill Roberts (left) could only pose on the snow laden 'green'! March 28 had long been fixed in the calendar for 'opening day' but nature had other ideas ... and it was only left for President elect David Parry-Jones and the 2013 Captain Janice Allport to congratulate Bill on being elected into office. The club, that meets on Monday and Thursday afternoons, boasts 80 memebrs who meet on the historic green behind the Wynnstay Hotel. If you are interested in joining them, you can contact the club secretary on Oswestry 654886.

Second team are hit by two defeats

OSWESTRY II continue to languish in the lower reaches of the Raging Bull North West League division three (south) after suffering two defeats over the Easter weekend.

After putting 59 points past Hope Valley in their previous outing, the Eagles were grounded by a slender 29-21 loss at Sandbach III on Saturday before going down 42-15 at Winnington Park II on Easter Monday.

Those two defeats leave them 11th in the table, but 10 points above the drop zone. This Saturday, they visit third placed Burnage.

OSWESTRY's first team, who have been sidelined due to the snow in the South Lancs and Cheshire Two, hope to return to action on Saturday with a home encounter against Ormskirk on Saturday.

Lying mid-table hey will bid to build on their 8-0 win at Wallasey in their last outing back on March 9.

Welshpool move three points clear

WELSHPOOL Ladies hit the heights in the North Wales Womens Hockey League division one with a 4-3 win at Dysynni to move three points clear at the top from local rivals Newtown.

The visitors warmed to the challenge in freezing conditions and, after Gez Charles pulled off some fine saves for Pool, they took the lead from a short corner when Cerys Bills fired home.

Sarah Williams doubled the advantage and Caroline Jones added a third from the rebound after Williams' shot had been saved.

The hosts rallied with two early second half goals but Welshpool calmed their nerves when Jones restored the two goal advantage with her second of the game.

Dysynni pulled one back, but the visitors held firm with Alex Cawthra named their player of the match.

COBRA eager to get back on the pitch

COBRA will be desperate to get their campaign up and running again after enduring another frustrating weekend without any action due to the wintry weather

Lying second in the table, the Meifod men were looking to maintain their push for promotion from the North Wales League division two (north) in last Saturday's home clash with lowly Llanidloes.

But the recent icy spell put paid to the encounter with five inches of snow still on the pitch last weekend, meaning COBRA have not played since beating Abergele 14-10 on March 2.

After another weather enforced lay-off, the Llanfair Caereinion side will be keeping their fingers crossed that they can get back on the pitch at relegation troubled Shotton Steel this Saturday as they bid to remain on track for promotion.

They now find themselves 10 points adrift of pacesetters Denbigh, who swamped Llangollen 59-0 but, with four games remaining, COBRA's main priority now is to secure runners-up spot.

And their promotion hopes were given a boost as nearest rivals Llandudno suffered a surprise 27-17 defeat to lowly Colwyn Bay which leaves them 16 points adrift of the Llanfair Caereinion side with only two games in hand now. "Colwyn Bay did us a big favour, we're in a strong position now, but we don't want to count our chickens just yet," said COBRA spokesman James Watkin.

"It was frustrating not to play last week but we've only got four league games left, so we're not in desperate straits, and we've managed to rearrange every game apart from Llanidloes who can come to us in midweek.

"Llandudno still have two games in hand, but it's going to be very difficult for them to turn those games into points at this stage of the season. They've got Denbigh next week which I can't see them getting any points from them." COBRA's North Wales Plate semi-final at Rhyl is scheduled for Saturday, April 13.

Early indications suggest the final will not be played until Saturday, 18 May.

WELSHPOOL, who had no scheduled game in rugby's North Wales League division three (north) last week, return to action with a testing home encounter against high flying Rhos on Saturday.

The Maesydre side still have six games to fit in but, now 10 points off second spot, their promotion hopes appear to have faded.

SPORT

Rangers draw but remain bottom

ELLESMERE Rangers remain at the foot of the Midland Alliance after being held to a goalless draw at Shropshire rivals Bridgnorth in a wind-affected derby.

The draw keeps Bridgnorth in third place while Ellesmere remain bottom of the division by one point, but they are now unbeaten in five games and just four points from safety.

Club spokesman Mark McIntyre said: "It is hard to say whether this is one point earned or two points lost, but we have taken two points off Bridgnorth this season now which is very good considering we are bottom of the division.

Booked

"Our fate is still in our own hands and we are still on target for getting out of this situation."

Both sides managed to create just the one chance each in the first half.

Adam Smith cleared a Kevin Buxton shot off the line for the hosts after four minutes while at the other end Josh Brown hit the post for Rangers after 26 minutes.

After the break Ryan Guryn drilled just wide for Bridgnorth but the Crown Meadow side survived a penalty appeal with 21 minutes remaining when Brown hit the floor following a challenge from Jason Pike.

Rangers felt the challenge warranted a spot-kick but the referee booked Brown for simulation.

Mike Evans almost grabbed a winner for Bridgnorth late on by was denied by Ellesmere keeper Dave Maguire.

Reserves on the charge for crown

LEADERS Waterloo reserves maintained their push towards the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League division one crown with a 2-1 home success over Llansantffraid reserves.

Two goals from Scott Holley helped clinch his side's 13th win of the season, taking Waterloo four points clear of nearest rivals Llanrhaeadr reserves who have a game in hand. Lee Dutton responded for Llansantffraid.

In a weather restricted programme, LLANYMYNECH lifted themselves clear of the basement strugglers in the Mitsubishi division two with a 1-0 verdict at BERRIEW RES, with Chris Gommell grabbing the game's only goal.

St Martins game is off

STILL without a win since the turn of the year, St Martins saw their clash at leaders Bilston in the West Midlands League division one become another victim of big freeze.

The Saints have gone nine games without a victory since defeating Blackheath in December, and their next action is at Wyrley a week on Saturday as the games start to pile up meaning a busy period between now and the end of the season.

That is followed by a midweek encounter at home to Wolverhampton United as they bid to ease their basement concerns.

Former United star Lee proves a dinner hit

The Lions committee with Lee Sharpe (from left): Ian Jones chairman, Nick Maguire manager, Lee Sharpe (ex Manchester United and Leeds), Andy Burnett secretary and Matt Williams, head coach.

Some of the Llansaintfraid table were celebrating after they were successful in the auction at the Oswestry Lions sportsman dinner. The four had bid successfully for some Manchester United shirts and memorabilia with the money going to charity.

FORMER England and Manchester United star Lee Sharpe made an appearance at TNS's Park Hall Stadium as guest speaker for a gentlemans evening arranged by the Oswestry Lions. Sharpe, and comedian Gary Skynet, helped The Lions, who play in the Mercian Regional League Division One, raise funds for the club and also for charity.More than 140 people enjoyed the three-course meal at the successful event at the Venue which was organised by Lions chairman Ian Jones.

Team manager Nick Maguire was also present at the evening, along with Matt Williams and Andy Burnett, coach and secretary, respectively.

Lions are back on track for promotion with 4-0 victory

Scott Bright who scored a hat trick for the Lions in their 4-0 home win over Morda Res

Graham Dyke who scored one goal and had two assists in the victory

AFTER a two games winless streak, Oswestry Lions put their promotion hopes back on track in the Mercian Regional League division one with a 4-0 home win over locals rivals Morda reserves at Park Hall.

Manager Nick Maguire watched his side come straight out the blocks and were ahead within five minutes when a sublime pass from Graham Dyke found strike partner Scott Bright who coolly slotted the ball past the oncoming keeper – the first of his hat-trick.

That lead was doubled just five minutes when a similar pass from midfielder Tom Stedman found Scott Bright who again found the back of the net with a neat side foot.

FOOTBALL
by John Bridgwater

The Lions midfield were controlling the game with brothers Ollie and Adam Jones keeping the play at a high tempo, and this forced the young Morda team to concede a free kick in a dangerous area and again it was Stedman with the assist as he found Dyke who lashed the ball into the net for a three-goal lead.

Lions kept the ball well with Morda never really threatening with centre backs Matty Williams and Rob Shone proving to be rock solid, with the home keeper largely untroubled.

The second half saw the Lions start quickly again and the fourth goal was soon recorded when Dyke found Bright at the back post who completed his hat-trick with a very rare header.

Although the Lions did not manage to score again there were some good moments as wing backs Nige Woodcock and Joe Evans kept on bombing forward to assist wingers Martin Cheeseman and Graeme Kirkham.

Having got their promotion push back on the rails, the Lions will now be facing their toughest test of this year when the entertain top of the league Ketley at the Venue, Park Hall on Saturday (3pm).

Course to help youngsters improve footballing skills

YOUNG football enthusiasts are being invited to improve their skills by taking part in a popular soccer week held at an independent school in Shropshire.

Easter Soccer Week will be held at Oswestry School and has been organised for boys and girls aged 5 to 14.

It will run from Monday to Thursday April 8-11.

Darren Hollingsworth, Oswestry School's Director of Sports who is one of the event's organisers, said there were still places available for anyone wishing to take part. "We have been running soccer events such as this at Oswestry School for several years now and they always prove highly popular," said Hollingsworth.

Qualified

"The course is designed for children of all abilities with an emphasis on the participants having fun and at the same time improving their skills and understanding of the game."

"Qualified and experienced coaches will supervise throughout the course which is taking place daily between 9am and 2.45pm."

Hollingsworth added that all those attending must bring full soccer kit including boots and trainers, and they will need a packed lunch.

For more information please email Darren Hollingsworth DH@oswestryschool.org.uk (01691 681109) or Jonathan Miles JSM@oswestryschool.org.uk (01691 681151)

Course coaches Darren Hollingsworth and Jonathan Miles

Morda off top after game hit by snow

MORDA United slipped off pole position in the Mercian Regional League premier division after their home clash with Telford Juniors was called off with snow still lying on the Weston Road pitch.

And previous leaders Church Stretton took full advantage to reclaim the summit by one point after winning 3-1 at Wellington Amateur reserves, although they have played three more games than United.

Despite the frustration with the cold weather, issues off the field have raised Morda's hopes of becoming the inaugural winners of this league after main rivals AFC Ludlow have been penalised for fielding an ineligible player.

Earlier in the season, Morda lost 3-1 at Ludlow in the league, but the south Shropshire side were ruled to have fielded a player without international clearance and have now been ordered to replay the game at the end of the month.

Journey

This leaves second-placed Morda four points above Ludlow who have just one game in hand.

Ironically, Ludlow and Morda are due to meet next Saturday in south Shropshire in the delayed quarter final of the premier division cup - with the clubs hoping to play at the third attempt.

MORDA RESERVES did see action last weekend when losing 4-0 to Oswestry Lions on the synthetic surface at Park Hall to remain in the lower reaches of division one.

Next Saturday, they have another short journey when they visit OSWESTRY BOYS CLUB a side dominated by former Morda players. The game at Park Hall kicks off at 3pm.

Like a lot of Mercian League sides, the Boys Club were also left kicking their heels last week as their first division clash at Meole Brace was off due a frozen pitch.

WESTON RHYN, without any premier division action last weekend, return to the pitch on Saturday with a tricky trip to Telford Juniors as they battle to stave off the threat of relegation.

League table and results

Mercian Regional Football League

Premier division: Allscott 3, Whitchurch Alport 1; AFC Ludlow 6, Dawley Town 0; Hodnet 0, Oakengates Athletic 1; Wellington Amateurs Reserves 1, Church Stretton 3.

Division one: Oswestry Lions 4, Morda Utd Reserves 0; Prees 3, Ketley Town 2; Shawbury Utd Reserves 2, Bishops Castle Town 3.

Division two: Albrighton Juniors 1, Madeley Sports Reserves 1; Claverley 3, Childs Ercall 1; Market Drayton Tigers 11, Denso 0.

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Church Stretton	20	12	4	42	34	40
Morda United	18	12	3	48	25	39
AFC Ludlow	17	12	3	51	16	38
Telford Juniors	17	9	3	28	17	32
FC Hodnet	18	9	7	30	22	29
Allscott	19	8	9	42	42	26
Shifnal United 97	18	7	8	29	28	24
Oakengates Ath	17	7	8	34	29	23
Ketley Bank Utd	19	6	10	26	41	21
Wellington Arms R	16	6	8	24	32	20
Weston Rhyn	19	4	13	18	38	14
Whitchurch Alp R	17	2	10	23	44	11
Dawley Town	13	2	10	10	37	7

DIVISION 1

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Prees FC	23	17	6	91	41	51
Ketley Town	21	16	3	100	30	50
Oswestry Lions	23	15	5	79	39	48
Rock Rovers FC	18	14	1	82	29	45
Wroxeter Rovers	20	14	5	78	31	43
Madeley Sports	19	13	3	62	20	42
Bishops Castle T	21	12	5	64	36	40
Oswestry BC	20	8	7	38	33	29
Brown Clee	19	7	11	40	55	22
Clee Hill	17	5	9	33	51	18
Meole Brace	22	5	15	39	77	17
Hopesgate United	17	3	13	33	73	10
Morda Utd Res	19	3	15	28	90	10
Shawbury Utd Res	23	2	19	21	105	8
Wrock Wood Jnrs	19	1	17	26	100	4

SPORT

Ellesmere College under 15 girls team who won the Shropshire indoor tournament

College girls on their way to indoor cricket finals

ELLESMERE College is celebrating success on the cricket field after returning victorious from the Shropshire under 15 girls indoor cricket tournament.

The team managed to beat off stiff competition in the county finals which culminated with the game of the tournament against Bridgnorth Endowed School.

The match went down to the last over and saw Ellesmere secure a five-run victory.

The SCB Lady Taverners Indoor competition offers many girls their first opportunity to play competitive cricket in a fun, fast paced and inclusive format.

Ellesmere College managed to win all of their games against Ludlow, Church Stretton/Craven Arms Cricket Project and Charlton Schools to go on to represent the county in a regional Midlands Finals.

They are being held this year at Trent Bridge (Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club) between April 22-26.

Rod Jones, director of the school's cricket academy said: "This is a huge achievement for the team.

"All of the girls played really well and it was a good team effort.

"We are hoping to take this level of performance onto the regional Midlands competition in April and hopefully we will have the same success there.

"The team is certainly capable of winning more competitions."

TNS show no mercy as they put bogey side to the sword

The New Saints 3 Carmarthen Town 0

DIRECTOR of football Craig Harrison believes there's more to come after The New Saints wrapped up back-to-back Welsh Premier crowns with a comfortable victory at Park Hall.

The Saints have now lifted the title seven times - equalling the record of the all conquering Barry Town side - and Harrison feels the newly crowned champions have what it takes to go from strength to strength.

"To win the league with four games remaining is a real credit to the lads who have been fantastic this season and deserve to be where they are," he said.

"The title has gone to the wire for the last few years, so it's nice to win it this time with time to spare. The lads have really moved up a gear since Christmas.

"We've now equalled Barry Town's record of seven league titles and I would like to think that there is more to come

"We've got a good balance of youth and experience, and the players are hungry for more."

After club stalwart Scott Ruscoe's first half header had separated the sides in the first half, the Saints stormed to victory after the break with Mike Wilde scoring twice to move top of the league's scoring charts with 20 this term.

Heavy snow earlier in the week was the main obstacle to the title being lifted last Saturday, but a band of helpers with shovels cleared the way for the game to be played.

FOOTBALL
by John Bridgwater

Two young fans clearly got in the spirit for the match and were rewarded by their team winning the title

Some of the fans who helped clear the pictch of snow so that the match could go-ahead

Ryan Fraughan leaves two Carmarthen players in his wake as he goes on the attack

Director of football Craig Harrison (back centre) with the TNS management team after lifting the Welsh Premier crown.

Nemesis

Carmarthen, however, were determined to spoil the party with some hefty challenges early on, but there was no way back once they had Casey Thomas red carded on the hour.

Such was their second half dominance, that TNS should have emerged far more emphatic winners, but victory nonetheless tasted sweet against a side who have been something of a nemesis this season.

The West Wales men were the last side to win at Park Hall, when prevailing 3-0 in the league at the end of November, while they also denied the Saints chances of a treble when defeating the full-timers on a penalty shootout in the final of the league cup earlier this year.

But they never really threatened to make it a hat-trick of wins, despite their early defiance that saw succession of strong early challenges, with Wilde the recipient on a couple of occasions.

Aeron Edwards put a first minute effort over, but early chances were in short supply in a tetchy opening, which saw TNS disrupted by the loss of defender Phil Baker with a calf problem midway through the first half.

Despite a couple of promising positions with the lively Edwards the instigator, the Saints struggled to get into their stride against their uncompromising visitors.But they almost took the lead in the 28th minute as Ryan Fraughan's 20-yarder brought a desperate block at the near post from impressive keeper Steve Cann who also managed to grasp the follow-up from Wilde low down.

Fraughan then carved an opening in the 33rd minute when weaving his way through the defence towards the by line, but Cann advanced to block his shot from a right angle.

However, the Saints were not to be denied two minutes later when more trickery from Fraughan on the right saw the winger beat his marker before whipping in a terrific inswinging cross that was met by the head of Ruscoe that left Cann wrong footed.

After the interval, Carmarthen's hopes of retrieving the game faded once Casey Thomas was red carded on the hour by referee Kevin Parry for a high and somewhat reckless challenge on Chris Marriott.

And the hosts ruthlessly took advantage to double their lead on 64 minutes, with Wilde latching onto a ball over the top before firing a low angled shot past Cann from the left channel.

Wilde had an immediate chance to add a third when being put clean through but his low strike was turned onto the post by Cann before his follow-up was cleared by the retreating defence.

Chances

With a two-goal and one man advantage, the Saints were now going for the kill.

Aeron Edwards was just off target with a deflected effort low down and then substitute Connell Rawlinson headed wide from a corner.

Darlington and Chris Jones kept Cann busy with the keeper making a couple of smart saves as the Old Gold defence found themselves at full stretch.

But the third goal that threatened duly arrived on 74 minutes when Wilde shrugged off his marker from Fraughan's right wing corner to head firmly into the net.

Moments later Cann managed to deny Wilde his hat-trick when somehow keeping out his diving header at the far post as the Saints stormed forward almost at will.

Sub Jamie Mullan should have added a fourth.

But the winger speeding clear into the box only to crash his shot against the bar from 10 yards.

The chances continued to flow, with Darlington, Chris Marriott and Wilde all going close to adding to the tally late on.

Bute at the other end sub Craig Hughes lashed an angled shot wide in what was a token effort for the visitors.

Welshpool on the move after derby victory

WELSHPOOL Town turned the tables on close neighbours Waterloo Rovers by securing a 4-2 Easter Monday derby win to maintain their improvements in the Spar Mid Wales League division one.

The Lilywhites have often come off second best in recent meetings with their local foes, shipping in 10 goals in the corresponding fixture last season, but put the record straight with a victory that lifted them up to 11th in the table.

They were slow to start, going behind to a penalty from Will Pritchard following David Williams' challenge, but levelled when Jack Williams intercepted a back pass to round the keeper.

Steve Hole restored the home advantage before half time, but Pool came out for the second half with renewed purpose and levelled through Tom Reynolds, before getting their noses in front courtesy of a Mike Cockram penalty awarded for handball in the box.

Good work from Cockram, who beat a couple of defenders before crossing from the byline, set up Reynolds to notch his second and team's fourth goal.

Two days before in a busy Easter spell, Steve Hole scored twice as Waterloo earned a creditable 3-3 draw at previous leaders Builth Wells, Will Pritchard also on the mark.

BERRIEW kept in sight of the division one pacesetters are hitting back to win 3-1 at Carno – in a game that saw both sides have their goalkeepers dismissed.

A goalless first half saw Berriew keeper Olly Jones red-carded for handling outside the box, and the home side looked to be well placed for a much needed win when they took the lead after the interval through Craig Stephens.

But the visitors turned the game on its head with Josh Gethin levelling, before Christian Webster nipped in for a second after keeper Chris Brown slipped.

Mark Jones completed the Berriew win from the penalty spot after Brown had been sent off for a foul.

MONTGOMERY kept alive their slim title chances with a 2-1 win at Bow Street, but there was frustration for Clive McNamee's side whose visit to Dyffryn Banw on Easter Monday fell victim to the weather.

LLANIDLOES TOWN moved three points clear with two wins on the road over the Easter break.

Strugglers

First up they defeated Tywyn Bryncrug 4-1, and followed that up with a crucial 4-2 victory at one-time leaders Builth Wells two days later.

Top scorer Jamie Breese bagged a goal in each half to set up the comfortable win over Tywyn.

The league leaders followed this up by defeating title rivals Builth Wells 4-2 on Easter Monday, with Karl Seliearts and Matthew Savage on target for a 2-0 interval lead.

Builth pulled one back but the Daffs restored their two goal cushion through Tom Goodwin.

A debatable penalty following a tackle by Colin Reynolds gave the Spa side a lifeline, but Llani were not to be denied as Jamie Breese netted a fourth after being played in by Goodwin.

Iwan Matthews bagged his 17th league goal of the season as **LLANSANTFFRAID VILLAGE** boosted hopes of a mid-table finish after securing a timely 3-1 win at basement strugglers Dolgellau. It was a profitable few days for the Llansantffraid sure who, two days later, notched a 3-0 win at faltering **FOUR CROSSES** who lost more ground on the leading pack. Chris Aitken (2) and Wayne Austin were on the mark for the visitors.

DYFFRYN BANW gave themselves a glimmer of hope in their survival fight with a slender 1-0 success at fellow strugglers Newbridge.

Misery for Mario as his team let in six

BASEMENT side Llanrhaeadr moved closer to the relegation trapdoor from the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance after being hit for six by Conwy Borough.

Despite an encouraging start, the villagers shipped in three goals before half time – and after that there was no way back as they ended up beaten 6-1 to remain nine points adrift of safety.

After an even first half hour, it all went wrong for Mario Iaquinta's side who were breached three times through Toby Jones (35), debutant Teddy Whelan (39) and Danny Desormeaux (43) to go into half time three goals down.

After seeing the game slip out of the reach so quickly, the second half was always going to prove a tough task and Conwy soon added a fourth courtesy of Lloyd Ellams two minutes after the interval.

Jones bagged his second on the hour, Scott Beckett made it six on 85 but Joe Vaughan at least gave the villagers a consolation two minutes from time,

Conwy manager Chris Herbert, the former Welshpool boss, was pleased with the application and patience of the team.

Rewarded

"They defended well and pressed us hard, and looked like they could have scored on the break, but we changed our shape and went ahead. After that we dominated," he said.

Llanrhaeadr were not helped when they went down to 10 men late in the second half but, to their credit, they did not give up and were rewarded with late consolation goal from Vaughan.

GUILSIELD's home clash with Holyhead Hotspur was postponed due to snow on the pitch to frustrate their hopes of pushing for a top five finish.

Last Monday's league cup quarter-final tie against Flint was also a victim of the prolonged wintry weather.

Meanwhile, Llanrhaeadr's vital home encounter with basement rivals Rhayader Town last Monday was also called off.

● No fewer than 20 games have been postponed during March and over 55 during a weather-hit season in the league, leaving clubs with a real battle to get their games played in time.

SPORT

Bowls
Club honours George, 100
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Football
Former United star at club
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Champagne celebrations as Saints clinch a seventh title

TNS players and fans celebrate after they clinched the Welsh Premier League title with a 3-0 home win over Carmarthen Town at Park Hall

NOW WE WANT TO DO DOUBLE – BOSS

HEAD coach Carl Darlington insists The New Saints are "hungry" for more success as the newly crowned Welsh Premier champions chase a league and cup double for the second season running.

Having lifted the league championship for a seventh time, the Saints now turn their thoughts to the defence of the Welsh Cup when they take on Bangor City in Saturday's televised semi-final at Rhyl's Belle Vue ground (3pm).

by John Bridgwater

After a weekend of celebrations, Darlington has no qualms that TNS will have their minds firmly on the job in hand as they return to the business of securing their second piece of silverware this season.

"Winning the league is behind us now, we enjoyed that, but I'm sure there won't be any complacency on Saturday as the lads are hungry for more success," he said.

"There's no better feeling than to reach a final, and we want to do that again and win the Welsh Cup.

"Everyone's been very professional this season, and their focus will be on Saturday.

"Although we beat Bangor 6-0 in the league the other week, we know this is going to be a lot more difficult as they will be hurting from that result and will have a score to settle. We'll have to make sure we're fully prepared for what is going to be a difficult game for us."

Carl Darlington – praise

The Saints can go into the semi-final tie in good spirits after retaining the league crown with last weekend's 3-0 home win over Carmarthen – a victory that stretched their unbeaten run in the league to 13 games, including 11 wins and two draws.

"After losing to Carmarthen on penalties in the league cup final, there was a lot of hurt, and the players wanted to put the record straight," said Darlington.

"We knew it was going to be tough, we hadn't scored a league goal against them this season, so we had a point to prove."

It was the Saints' seventh Welsh Premier crown, and their sixth in the last nine seasons – equalling the record set by Barry Town side in the late 90s and early 2000s. And it ensured Champions League football will be coming to Oswestry for another season.

"The lads have been fantastic, to be 16 points clear at this stage and to win the league with four games remaining, says it all," added Darlington.

● There is a free bus to the game for supporters, leaving the Venue at 12.30pm. Anyone interested should contact Gilbert Woolley on 01691-684840.

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Morda are preparing for a busy four weeks

BOSS Craig Rogers is preparing for a "defining" month as Morda United embark on two tricky cup outings in three days before resuming their Mercian Regional League premier division title chase.

First up, is a rearranged premier division cup quarter-final tie at AFC Ludlow on Saturday, followed by a Powell Cup semi-final against Instones at Wem on the Monday.

The following weekend the Weston Road men then begin their tough run-in to the league campaign with a trip to FC Hodnet – the first of four vital league games, three of which are against teams in the top five, and the other a derby against Weston Rhyn.

Frosty

Remarkably, Morda are likely to have played 11 successive league and cup games away from home, before eventually returning to their Weston Road base later this month.

Before the league resumes, two cup competitons take centre stage and Rogers said: "The league is our priority, it has been all season, but we still want to do well in the cups, particularly the league cup as we are the holders."

Morda are expecting a frosty reception at Ludlow who are angered at having to replay their league clash with the Weston Road side, which they won 3-1, after playing an ineligible player.

"It's going to be hostile, but we're going there to win and get the job done," added Rogers.

Junior coaching course to start

WHITTINGTON cricket club are holding junior cricket coaching. It gets underway next Wednesday, April 10, and runs for 12 weeks, for youngsters aged eight and upwards.

The course costs £25 for the 12 weeks or £3 per session. Those interested in signing up should contact Mike Brunt on 01691-661874.

Bowlers hoping for change of weather

BOWLERS will hope to warm to the challenge when the Oswestry and District Bowls League starts again next Tuesday.

Clubs will be hoping for a big improvement in the weather as they look to launch another busy league season.

Criftins A, who are due to get underway on home soil against Corwen, will be out to defend their division one title while Weston Rhyn are back in the top flight for the first time in a number of years after gaining promotion from the second division title last term.

Mid-table Whittington A, another side under snow under this week, are looking for improvements when they launch their season at home to Ruabon.

"We didn't finish as high as we would have liked, but hopefully we can do better this time," said skipper Aled Davies.

CHURCH A, who are again captained this term by Travis Stokes, look to better their mid-table finish of last season as they get their campaign underway with a tricky trip to newly promoted Flexsys A.

● Preview on Page 45

It's snow misery for cricket clubs

THE difference a year makes – just 12 months after their Morda Road ground was basking in spring sunshine, Oswestry cricket club's build-up for this season was hit by the freezing weather that left all their nets destroyed. With the club's first game due on Saturday, April 13, away to Birmingham League premier division side Wombourne in the Graham Williamson Trophy, the unseasonal weather has brought unexpected problems.

The club's three bay nets having all collapsed under the weight of the snow, while their portable net has also been severely damaged, leaving players to return indoors to continue their pre-season build-up. After opening the season a week on Saturday, Oswestry are away the following week to another premier division side, Walsall or Shrewsbury, also in the Graham Williamson Trophy.

The league season gets underway at home to Water Orton on Saturday, April 27 as Oswestry look to make their mark in the Birmingham League division two.

Town are hoping to end with a win run

WELSHPOOL Town boss Dave Jones believes his side can finish the Spar Mid Wales League division one campaign on a high by winning their final three games.

The Lilywhites picked up their fifth win in six outings when securing a 4-2 derby triumph at Waterloo Rovers last Monday, and Jones wants his players to keep that run going.

Pool have no game this weekend, before hosting Carno the following Friday. They finish the season with a trip to Aberystwyth University and home clash with Four Crosses.

And Jones is confident his side can maintain the upward momentum, adding: "There is no reason why we can't win our remaining games.

"It was nice to beat Waterloo after losing 10-1 to them last season."

Action

Tom Reynolds scored a brace for Pool with Mike Cockram (penalty) and Jack Williams also scoring.

Rovers replied with a penalty from Will Pritchard and Steve Hole got the other.

Meanwhile, clubs will be chasing some cup cheer this weekend with the quarter-finals of the Spar Mid Wales League Cup.

First up, WATERLOO ROVERS look to shrug off Easter Monday's derby loss to Welshpool when they visit second division Llandrindod Wells in the first of the ties tomorrow night (Friday).

That is followed by the other three quarter-final games on Saturday, the pick of which sees BERRIEW host second division high fliers LLANFAIR UNITED.

While Berriew managed to play last weekend, Llanfair again suffered from a lack of action with their trips to Llanfyllin and Knighton both succumbing to the wintry weather.

FOUR CROSSES, stung with their 3-0 home defeat to Llansantffraid Village, look to bounce back at Rhosgoch in the cup.

Making up the last quarter-final line-up are high flying Llanidloes Town and Hay St Mary's who come face to face at Victoria Avenue.

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